

THE HISTORY OF THE
TRANSMISSION
OF THE BIBLE

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1935

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OF THE BIBLE

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Lazarus Ministry Press

The History of the Transmission of the Bible: 1935

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EXHIBITION ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY
OF THE TRANSMISSION OF THE
BIBLE, WITH AN INTRODUCTORY SKETCH
BY THE LIBRARIAN, AND TWENTY-TWO
FACSIMILES

In Commemoration of the 400th
Anniversary of the Publication of
Coverdale's Bible, in October, 1535

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CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION
ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY OF
THE TRANSMISSION OF THE BIBLE

THE Exhibition will be open to the public on Wednesday, the 2nd of October, from six until nine o'clock in the evening, and will remain on view on the usual public days of Tuesday and Friday between the hours of two and six o'clock in the afternoon.

The opening of the Exhibition will be marked by a lecture on "THE BEGINNINGS OF THE ENGLISH BIBLE," to be delivered in the lecture room, by the Librarian, at 7.30 o'clock.



From a Drawing in the Possession of Dr. Giff!

I.—MILES COVERDALE, 1488-1568

PREFATORY NOTE.

THE exhibition of manuscripts and printed books described in the following pages has been arranged in commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the publication of the first complete Bible to be printed in the English language, which was translated and edited by Miles Coverdale, and completed on the 4th of October, 1535.

Although Coverdale's version is but a secondary translation, a version derived from other versions, its importance in the history of the English Bible is very great. We cannot too carefully bear in mind that in three-fourths of the Old Testament this was the first printed version to be presented to the English reader. Throughout that large portion of the Bible Coverdale stands alone. The New Testament, also, which is chiefly based on Tindale's translation, has considerable literary merit, and many charming touches in the authorized version of 1611 belong to Coverdale.

The most interesting portion of Coverdale's Old Testament is the Psalter, and it is hardly too much to say that this portion is still familiar to all who read the Book of Common Prayer, for the Prayer Book Psalter is in essence the Psalter of the Coverdale Bible of 1535, and has obtained an abiding place in the literature of the English speaking peoples, affecting the religious life of the generations of Englishmen, to whom, since Coverdale's day, it has become familiar.

In the arrangement of the exhibits we have sought, as well as our space will allow, to illustrate the transmission of the Bible through the various stages of its eventful history from the original texts and early versions down to the "Revised Version" of 1881-85.

It is not possible within the limits of a short prefatory note to convey anything like an adequate idea of the extent of the

collection from which the exhibits have been selected. This, however, may be said that its range must not be estimated by the comparatively limited number of objects which can be accommodated in the exhibition cases of the library.

The principal purpose for which exhibitions of this character are arranged from time to time is to reveal to students, and to the public generally, something of the riches of the collections which have made this library famous, and which at the same time have helped to make Manchester a centre of attraction to scholars from all parts of the world.

It is hoped, therefore, that the present exhibition will be of service to a wide circle of students, who may be unaware of the wealth of material which is available to them for the study of the Bible in all its aspects. To that end, we have included a list of a selection of works for the study of the original texts and principal versions of the Bible, which may be consulted in the library. Here, again, it should be emphasized that the list represents nothing more than a selection of the books available to readers.

For the help of those into whose hand this pamphlet may fall, and who may not be familiar with the eventful history which surrounds our national Bible, we have prefixed a brief sketch of the vicissitudes through which the Bible has passed in its descent to us.

In the annotations to the catalogue entries reference has been made to the interesting features and peculiarities of many of the volumes shown. These notes will often supplement the information contained in the introductory sketch, and vice versa. It is hoped that the set of facsimiles will also add to the interest of the catalogue.

It remains only for me to say that I am indebted to my colleagues, Mr. Guthrie Vine, the Sub-Librarian, and Dr. Moses Tyson, for help in the preparation of the catalogue.

HENRY GUPPY.

THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY,
October, 1935.

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<p style="margin-left: 2em;">* * The "Golden Legend" was the largest and most extensive of all Caxton's literary and typographical undertakings.</p> <p>The translation, which was Caxton's own work, was made from the French version by Jean de Vignay. The original Latin work was compiled by Jacobus de Voragine, archbishop of Genoa from 1292 to 1298.</p> <p>The work may be said to contain the earliest portion of the Bible printed in English, comprising, as it does, a fairly literal translation of nearly the whole of the Pentateuch, and a great part of the Gospels, mixed up with a good deal of mediæval gloss, under the guise of the lives of Adam, Abraham, Moses, the Apostles, and others. It must have been extensively read by the people, or to the people, long before the days of Tindale and Coverdale, since numerous editions were printed during the latter years of the fifteenth and the early part of the sixteenth century.</p> <p>The reading in Genesis iii. 7 of "breeches" for "aprons," which is generally thought to be peculiar to the "Genevan version" of the Bible of 1560, and has led to its popular designation "Breeches Bible," was anticipated by Caxton in this volume.</p>		
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<p style="margin-left: 2em;">* * This Latin Bible was amongst the first productions of the printing-press in Europe, and the earliest of any size that has survived to the present day.</p> <p>The first copy to attract attention was one in the library of Cardinal Mazarin, to which fact it owes its popular name of "Mazarin Bible." To bibliographers it is known as the "42-line Bible," from the number of lines to a printed column, to distinguish it from another printed about the same time, and styled for a similar reason the "36-line Bible."</p> <p>The city of Mainz has been generally recognized as the place where both Bibles were printed, although there is still a difference of opinion upon the point.</p> <p>There is also a difference of opinion with regard to the printer. The name of Johann Gutenberg has been suggested by some authorities ; by others it is assumed that Johann Fust, to whom Gutenberg was originally indebted for financial assistance, and his son-in-law, Peter Schoeffer, were mainly responsible for it.</p> <p>The book itself contains no definite information as to the names of the printers, the place of printing, or the date, but from the evidence of a note left by the rubricator of a copy preserved in the "Bibliothèque Nationale," Paris, it is assumed that the work was completed sometime before August 24, 1456.</p>		

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<p>* * This volume, containing the five books of Moses, was the first portion of the Old Testament to be translated directly from the original Hebrew, and printed in English. The translator, William Tindale, having completed and issued his version of the New Testament in 1525 or early in 1526, settled down to the study of Hebrew, in order to qualify himself for the translation of the Old Testament. In 1527 he took refuge in "Marburg," where in the intervals of study he found time to prepare his two most important controversial works, which constituted his manifesto, and early in 1530 his translation of the "Pentateuch" made direct from the Hebrew, with the aid of Luther's German version, was ready for circulation.</p>	
<p>There are grounds for believing the place-name of "Marburg" or "Marlborow," which is found in the imprint to indicate the place of printing, to be fictitious, being adopted in order to conceal the name of the city which we now know to be Antwerp.</p>	
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<p>* * The translation was made not from the original Greek and Hebrew, but from the Vulgate and other versions, by a Yorkshireman, Miles Coverdale, afterwards Bishop of Exeter. Nothing definite is known as to the place of printing, but certain features point to Zurich and to Christopher Froschover.</p>	
<p>There is a curious reading in Jeremiah iii. 22, where "Balm in Gilead" is rendered "Triacle at GalAAD."</p>	
<p>The Psalter in the "Book of Common Prayer" is substantially the same as that printed in the "Coverdale Bible" of 1535, and actually the same as that printed in the "Great Bible" of 1539.</p>	

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* * Thomas Matthew is considered to be a name assumed by John Rogers, an intimate friend of Tindale, probably his executor, who became the first martyr under the Masian persecution.	
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It is a revision by Coverdale of "Matthew's Bible" of 1537, by the aid and with the assistance of Thomas Cromwell. It was printed partly at Paris and partly at London.	
The "Psalter" in the "Book of Common Prayer" is the same as that printed in this Bible.	
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* * This was a revision of the Great "Bible," undertaken by Archbishop Matthew Parker, with the assistance of many bishops and well-known Biblical scholars.	
22. TITLE-PAGE OF THE "AUTHORISED VERSION" OF THE BIBLE. 1611.	55
* * The first edition of "King James's Bible," commonly called the "Authorised Version."	
The idea of this new translation was due to John Rainolds, President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, the Puritan leader at the Hampton Court Conference, 1604. The King took up the proposal warmly, and its achievement was due to his royal interest and influence. The translators numbered about fifty, and were divided into six companies, each company being responsible for a certain section of the Scriptures.	

INTRODUCTORY SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE TRANSMISSION OF THE BIBLE.

THE text of the Bible rests for its primary authorities in the case of the Old Testament on manuscripts written in the Hebrew language, and for the New Testament on manuscripts in the Greek tongue. It is a point worthy of notice that, whilst the Hebrew idiom was always restricted to the use of the Jewish people, the Greek language was the common medium of communication throughout the eastern portion of the Roman Empire at the time of the New Testament history. As the exclusiveness of religion, life, and language, which was the distinguishing characteristic of the Jews, fitted them in a peculiar way to be the guardians of the Sacred Scriptures during the period of the formation of the Old Testament canon, so the prevalence of the Greek language at the commencement of the present era provided one of the conditions necessary for the rapid spread of Christianity in accordance with the different intention of the new dispensation.

The composition of the latest books of the Old Testament may not improbably be assigned to about the second or HEBREW TEXT. third century B.C., but none of the Hebrew manuscripts approach this date in antiquity. The oldest codex with an unquestioned date is one of A.D. 916, containing the prophetical books of the Old Testament, preserved in the National Library at Leningrad, which also possesses in a manuscript of A.D. 1009 the earliest complete Hebrew Bible. The British Museum has an undated manuscript of the Pentateuch, which is believed to be somewhat older than that containing the Prophets at Leningrad.

All the extant Hebrew manuscripts of the Old Testament are more or less exact copies of a single critical edition, called the

Masoretic (i.e. traditional) text, which not only supplied the text but furnished a complete apparatus of notes and punctuation. The preparation of the Masoretic text can only be dated approximately, but it must be placed between the fifth and eighth centuries of the present era. (Case 1, Nos. 1-4.)

Besides the Hebrew Masoretic manuscripts there exists another important recension of one portion of the Old Testament, namely, the Samaritan Pentateuch. This is a form of the Hebrew text of the Pentateuch as preserved by the Samaritans. Their possession of this independent text has been attributed to Manasseh, grandson of the high-priest Eliashib, who was one of the Jews expelled from Jerusalem by Nehemiah for having contracted marriages with the heathen. In retaliation he joined the Samaritans, that mixed race which owed their introduction into Palestine to the Assyrians, and helped to establish a Temple on Mount Gerizim as a rival to the one in Jerusalem. With the Jewish ritual he probably brought a copy of the Pentateuch, which seems to have been the only portion of the Old Testament recognised as inspired at the time. The independent history of the Samaritan Pentateuch renders it of great value for the restoration of the original form of the text. In some cases it agrees with the Greek Septuagint version where that differs from the Hebrew, but on the whole it is in substantial accord with the Masoretic text, which thus receives important confirmation from an unprejudiced source. The oldest extant manuscript of the Samaritan Pentateuch is probably that at Nablus, but it is doubtful whether even this is earlier than the twelfth century A.D. The copy shown in the present exhibition was written in A.D. 1211 (Case 1, No. 8).

SAMARITAN
PENTA-
TEUCH.

The middle of the second century A.D. may be taken as an approximate date for the latest of the books comprised in the New Testament canon. Between their completion and the surviving manuscript material no such interval exists as in that of the Old Testament.

GREEK
TEXT.

The original and early manuscripts of the New Testament writings are of papyrus, and of these within the last few years

some very startling discoveries have been made. Five years ago the announcement of the finding of what are known as the "Chester Beatty Papyri" caused quite a stir. It is a collection of portions of twelve papyrus codices, ranging in date from the third to the fourth or fifth century, and collectively may still be regarded as the earliest extant manuscripts of any considerable size of the Greek Bible. Eight of the codices contain portions of the Old Testament, three contain portions of the Gospels, the Acts, the Pauline Epistles, and the Apocalypse, whilst one contains the end of the lost Greek original of the Book of Enoch, and an unidentified homily. One of the groups consists of thirty leaves of a codex which once contained all four Gospels and the Acts. They appear to be of the third century, and consequently are about a century earlier than the "Codex Sinaiticus."

These texts, which have been transcribed and prepared for the press by Sir Frederick G. Kenyon, are in course of publication, accompanied by photographic facsimiles of the originals, by the Oxford University Press.

In the early part of the present year (1935) came news of the still more thrilling discovery of a New Testament papyrus fragment of the middle of the second century.

Not since the discovery of the "Logia" papyrus, at Oxyrhynchus, in 1897, has a Christian papyrus come to light which raises so many and such interesting problems as this fragment of a papyrus codex containing portions of an unknown gospel of the middle second century.

This fragment formed part of a little collection of papyri purchased from a dealer last year by the Trustees of the British Museum. They come, it is thought, from the same district in Egypt as the "Logia." The fragment is therefore one of the earliest Christian manuscripts yet discovered in that country. It has been published in fascimile, with transcripts and an introduction, by Dr. Idris Bell, the Keeper of Manuscripts in the British Museum, and his assistant, Mr. T. C. Skeat, under the title: "Fragments of an unknown Gospel, and other Early Christian Papyri."

Now comes another interesting discovery: that amidst

the unpublished and hitherto uncatalogued fragments of Greek papyri in the Rylands collection, upon which Professor Hunt was at work at the time of his lamented death, is a small fragment of a papyrus codex of St. John's Gospel, written in the early part of the second century—when the ink of the original autograph can hardly have been dry. This must be regarded as the earliest fragment by at least fifty years of the New Testament (Case 1, No. 5).

The two oldest and most valuable vellum manuscripts of the New Testament were written in the fourth century. One of these, the "Codex Sinaiticus" (designated by the symbol \aleph), belonged to the National Library at Leningrad until 1934, when it was acquired for the British Museum for the sum of £100,000; the other, the "Codex Vaticanus" (designated B), is preserved, as its name implies, in the Vatican Library at Rome. Two important manuscripts are known of the fifth century—the "Codex Alexandrinus" (A) in the British Museum, and "Codex Ephraemi" (C) in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris. Several codices of the sixth century are in existence, of which the most noteworthy, on account of the character of its text, is "Codex Bezae" (D) in the possession of the University Library, Cambridge. Of manuscripts written in later centuries the quantity is very considerable. If one reckons the whole number of Greek manuscripts of the New Testament (including those of portions of the text), the total will amount to about 4000. (Case 1, Nos. 5-7.)

Whilst the essential basis of the true Biblical text can only be provided by manuscripts written in the original languages in which the books of the Old and New Testament were composed, the various translations of the Bible are of the highest value in the establishment of its general accuracy, and for the elucidation of difficult and disputed passages. Of these the most important in every respect is the Greek version of the Old Testament, known as the Septuagint. This was produced in Alexandria in the time of the Macedonian dynasty in Egypt, probably between the years 285 and 150 B.C. The unique value of this version is due to the fact that it not only provides the

SEPTUAGINT
VERSION.

earliest form of the text of the Old Testament owing to the existence of manuscripts some centuries older than the Hebrew ones, but that it is also the primary authority for those books not contained in the Hebrew canon, known as the Apocrypha. The Greek manuscripts, "Codex Sinaiticus," "Codex Vaticanus," "Codex Alexandrinus," and "Codex Ephraemi," which have already been mentioned amongst the principal authorities for the text of the New Testament, contain in addition the Septuagint version of the Old, and occupy a position of equal importance with regard to it. Upwards of 300 manuscripts of the Septuagint are known at the present time. (Case 2, No. 1.)

To the Western world the Latin version of the Scriptures, commonly called the "Vulgate," must always be the ^{LATIN} VERSIONS. one of greatest interest by reason of its general use throughout the Middle Ages, and its continuous position of supremacy in the Latin Church. This translation of the Bible we owe to the labours of St. Jerome, who undertook the task of preparing an authoritative Latin text at the request of Pope Damasus about A.D. 382. Before that time several translations appear to have been in circulation in the Church. These Old Latin versions, as they are styled, are now known only from fragmentary remains, so far as the canonical books are concerned ; but these are very valuable for the Old Testament, since they represent a translation made from the Septuagint instead of the original Hebrew, and so are of great importance for the textual criticism of the former.

St. Jerome seems to have brought his Biblical labours to a conclusion about A.D. 404. These may be described in brief as consisting of a conservative revision of the Old Latin versions of the New Testament, with a fresh translation of the Old Testament from the Hebrew. In the case of the Psalms, however, of which he prepared three different versions, the one that gained currency was a translation made by him from Origen's Hexapla edition of the Septuagint. Of the Apocrypha, the authority of which St. Jerome did not recognise, only a small part was translated by him, so that the present Vulgate text of it may be regarded as essentially the same as that of the Old Latin version.

The version of St. Jerome had to encounter considerable opposition at first, for, although it was produced at the instance of Pope Damasus, it was never officially recognised by the mediæval Church, and won its way to its ultimate position by virtue of its superior merits. In 1546 it was declared by the Council of Trent to be the authoritative Latin version. At least 8000 manuscripts of it are in existence. (Case 2, Nos. 7-8.)

For its contributions to the textual criticism of the Bible a very high place must be accorded to the Syriac version, SYRIAC VERSION, of which there are two early forms in existence, called the Peshitta, and Old Syriac, respectively. The former term means "simple," and hence probably "current" or "common" version, like "Vulgate." The date of the Peshitta Old Testament is not known, but it seems not unlikely that some parts of it were translated before the commencement of the Christian era. The New Testament has been attributed with some probability to Rabbūla, who was Bishop of Edessa from 411 to 435 A.D., and is recorded to have made a translation of the New Testament from Greek into Syriac. The earliest manuscripts of this translation belong to the second half of the fifth century. (Case 2, Nos. 2-4.)

The discovery of the existence of the Old Syriac version is due to William Cureton, who in 1842 found some fragments in the British Museum of a translation very different from that of the Peshitta. These and three other leaves found afterwards in the East were published in 1872. This version received the name Curetonian Syriac, but it was not until 1892 that any considerable portion of it was known. In that year two Cambridge ladies, Mrs. Lewis and her twin sister Mrs. Gibson, discovered and subsequently photographed a palimpsest manuscript in the monastery of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai, the under-writing of which was found to consist of a nearly complete copy of the four Gospels of a textual character closely akin to that of the Curetonian. The great importance of the Old Syriac is due to the support given by it to the readings peculiar to "Codex Bezae" and its allies, which provide the basis of what is known as the Western text of the New Testament.

There are other Syriac versions besides the two here mentioned, but none of the same importance for the history of the text. One of them, the Heraclean, is derived from Thomas of Heraclea, Bishop of Hierapolis, who in A.D. 616 finished a complete revision, undertaken by himself, of the translation prepared in A.D. 508 by one named Polycarp for Philoxenus, a previous Bishop of Hierapolis. (Case 2, Nos. 3-4.)

Amongst Biblical versions a prominent place is occupied by the Aramaic Targums of the Old Testament, which ARAMAIC TARGUMS. furnish us with very early evidence as to the original state of the Hebrew text, although their value is considerably lessened by the fact that they are in the nature of paraphrases rather than translations. They owe their origin to the custom of explaining the Hebrew text in Aramaic, which after the exile had become the vernacular tongue of the Jews. From an extempore oral exposition the targum gradually passed to a fixed form which was at last committed to writing. The earliest and most literal of the targums is that of Onkelos on the Pentateuch, which appears to have been in existence in the third century, although not granted official recognition until the fifth, in which the targum of the Prophets ascribed to Jonathan ben Uzziel is supposed to have received its final form.

Of the older versions of the New Testament the most important is Coptic, which was the literary form of the COPTIC vernacular language used in Egypt in the early VERSION. centuries of the present era. Coptic owed its origin to the Greek settlement in Egypt ; not only were the Greek characters adopted, with some additional symbols, for the script, but a number of Greek words were taken into the language. As a literary medium it seems to have come into general use in the course of the second century A.D. The New Testament was translated into Coptic at an early date, either in the third century, or, possibly, at the close of the second. Two principal forms of it are known, the Saïdic or Thebaic, and the Bohairic, also called the Alexandrian and the Memphitic, which represent two of the principal dialects of the country. Of these, the former, which was the version of Upper

Egypt, is probably the earlier, but it is less polished than the other which was the version of Lower Egypt. Only fragments of it remain, so that it is impossible to judge properly of its textual character, although it appears to belong to the Western type. On the other hand, there are a considerable number of manuscripts of the Bohairic type, owing doubtless to its adoption ultimately as the recognised version of the Coptic Church. The date of the translation may be assigned to the latter half of the third or the first half of the fourth century. In the character of its text it agrees with the two famous Greek manuscripts "Codex Sinaiticus" and "Codex Vaticanus," on which the revisers of the New Testament of 1881 relied for many departures from the "Authorised Version" in its adhesion to what is known as the Received Text, of which "Codex Alexandrinus" is the most distinguished representative. (Case 2, Nos. 5-6.)

The other ancient versions are not of such importance as to call for extended notice. The Armenian (Case 2, No. 9) and Ethiopic versions both rest for the Old Testament on the Septuagint, and are assigned to about the fifth century, to which the Georgian translation also belongs. The Gothic version, of which various fragments remain, was the work of Ulfilas, who was made Bishop, probably in 341, at Antioch, and died in 381 or 383. As the earliest translation made for the use of a Teutonic people it can never be regarded without interest by English people.

The literary history of the English Bible may be said to begin with John Wyclif, to whom is ascribed the honour of having given to his own countrymen, in or about the year 1382, the first complete Bible in their own tongue.

Long prior to Wyclif's time, however, portions of the Bible had been translated or paraphrased in rhyme, both EARLY ENGLISH PARA-PHRASES. in Anglo-Saxon and in a number of the dialects which had grown up in various parts of the country.

It is unlikely that these paraphrases exercised much influence upon succeeding Versions, but they certainly prepared the way for Wyclif's work.

As early as the seventh century, Cædmon, a lay monk of Whitby, who died in 680, and has been described as "the first Saxon poet," and "the Milton of our forefathers," whose gifts had been discovered while he was a poor cow-herd on the neighbouring downs, composed a metrical version of large portions of Old Testament history, and of the main facts in the life of Our Lord, and the preaching of the Apostles "besides many more about the Divine benefits and judgments, by which he endeavoured to turn all men from the love of vice, and to excite in them the love of, and application to, good actions." These paraphrases were made from translations prepared by his more learned brethren from the Latin Vulgate, and related to him, that he might render them into verse.

These religious poems or paraphrases were learnt and sung by the people, and for a time were their sole source of Bible knowledge. Important as they are as the earliest Anglo-Saxon works presenting Scripture in any form, they have no claim to rank among translations.

The first translators of whom we have any information are : Aldhelm, Abbot of Malmesbury and Bishop of Sherborne, who died in 709, and Guthlac, a hermit of Crowland, near Peterborough, who was born in 674. To each of these devout men is ascribed a version of the Psalter, now probably lost.

The Venerable Bede, the most famous scholar of his day, described by Edmund Burke as "the father of English learning," who made Northumbria the literary centre of Europe, and died at Jarrow-on-the-Tyne in 735, translated the Apostles Creed and the Lord's Prayer into Anglo-Saxon for the benefit of illiterate priests. How much more of the Bible he translated is uncertain, but the last work of a laborious life was the translation of the fourth Gospel into the vernacular.

Another of the outstanding figures of the eighth century was Alcuin, the schoolmaster of York, who became the personal friend and adviser of that greatest of Emperors, Charlemagne, and undertook the direction of the

palatial school he had founded at Aachen, or Aix-la-Chapelle, for the sons of Frankish noblemen. He died in the Abbey of St. Martin, at Tours, in 804. A translation of the Pentateuch is attributed to him. The following extract from one of Alcuin's sermons seems to indicate that the distribution of the Scriptures at this time must have been much more extensive than is generally supposed :

“The reading of the Scriptures is the knowledge of everlasting blessedness. In them man may contemplate himself as in some mirror, what sort of person he is. The reading cleanseth the reader's soul, for, when we pray, we speak to God, and when we read the Holy Books, God speaks to us.”

The next translator was a royal personage, Alfred the Great, who died in 901. In the preface to his translation of ^{ALFRED.} Gregory's “*Pastoral Care*,” which is considered to be the first of Alfred's literary works, the king gives expression to the wish that : “all the free-born youth of my people . . . may persevere in learning . . . until they can perfectly read the English Scriptures.” We cannot say to what extent he was able to minister to that noble wish, by providing versions of the Scriptures for the use of the people. According to William of Malmesbury, “he began a version of the Psalter which was interrupted by his death.” His monument as a translator consists of the Decalogue and certain other Mosaic laws, which he placed at the head of his Book of Laws, popularly known as “Alfred's Dooms.”

Another renowned scholar was Ælfric, known as “the Grammarian,” who was monk at Winchester, and ^{ÆLFRIC.} successively abbot of Cerne and Eynsham. One of his principal achievements was the translation or paraphrase of the first seven books of the Bible, known as “Ælfric's Heptateuch,” of which several manuscripts are known, the most famous of which is preserved in the British Museum. It was partly translated, and partly epitomised, with a prologue. In his “Homily on reading the Scriptures,” Ælfric wrote : “Happy is he, who reads the Scriptures, if he convert the words into action.” The exact date of Ælfric's death is not known, but it must have taken place about 1020.

In addition to these paraphrases and translations, Anglo-Saxon glosses on the Latin texts, written between the lines and interpreting the Latin, are found in LINDIS-FARNE GOSPELS. manuscripts both of the Gospels and of the Psalter.

A gloss differs from a translation in that it construes the text word for word between the lines, without much regard to the grammatical arrangement. The most famous of these glossed Gospels is that known as the "Lindisfarne Gospels," or "St. Cuthbert's Gospels," sometimes referred to as "the Durham Book," which is now preserved in the British Museum. The Latin text was written by Eadfrith, Bishop of Lindisfarne, in honour of St. Cuthbert, who died in 687. It was illuminated by Ethelwold, afterwards Bishop of Lindisfarne (724-740), and at a later date, possibly in the ninth century, the interlinear translation in the Northumbrian dialect was added by a monk named Aldred, a poor priest of Holy Island. The volume remained at Lindisfarne (Holy Isle) until the Danish invasion of Northumbria in 875, when it was carried away for safety, in company with the shrine which held the body of St. Cuthbert. It found a home at Durham for a long period, and was subsequently restored to Lindisfarne, where it remained until the dissolution of the monastery in 1534. It was purchased by Sir Robert Cotton in the seventeenth century, through whom it passed into the keeping of the British Museum, where it is deservedly regarded as one of the nation's most treasured possessions.

Another of the glossed Gospels is preserved in the Bodleian Library, at Oxford. It is known as "the Rushworth Gospels," from the name of a former possessor, RUSHWORTH GOSPELS. John Rushworth, of Lincoln's Inn, who was Deputy Clerk to the House of Commons during the Long Parliament. The Latin text was written by an Irish scribe named MacRegol, about 850. The interlinear gloss was added by a scribe named Owun, and a priest named Faerman. The three later Gospels in the Rushworth book are so nearly identical with those of the Lindisfarne manuscript as to suggest that the translation contained in the latter represents a publicly circulated version.

Several other glossed Psalters and Gospels, dating back to the ninth and tenth centuries, have come down to us. But it should be explained that such glosses were only intended to assist the priest in reading the Latin text, when the lessons were read first in Latin and the sense was explained in the popular tongue ; they were not intended for popular use.

With the conquest of England by the Normans, in 1066, the work of translating the Scriptures suffered a check. NORMAN CONQUEST. The very language of the land was threatened, for the conquerors were anxious to impose their language upon the conquered nation, and to make French the language of the future. English had to fight for its very existence, but it fought strenuously against the forces wielded by the King and his court, and in the end gained the victory. Norman French became the language of the court, the school, and the bar, but the Anglo-Saxon tongue tenaciously retained its hold on the farmhouse, the cottage, the market-place, and in the every-day proceedings of common life.

Whilst this struggle was being waged the work of translating the Scriptures was checked. The wants of the educated classes were supplied by the French translations and paraphrases which the conquerors brought with them, and which continued to be copied. The needs of the natives were supplied by copies of the earlier Anglo-Saxon versions, which continued to be made until well into the twelfth century.

This contest for supremacy between the two languages had far-reaching effects. By the time of the Plantagenets the vernacular tongue of the country had so changed by reason of its contact with the French spoken by the upper classes, that it had become very corrupt, and new dialects sprang up in different parts of the country, until there were almost as many dialects as there were counties, with the result that in process of time the people of the Northern counties could not understand the people of the South, and vice versa.

It became obvious, therefore, that before there could be a common English Bible, there must be something approaching a common English speech. Some unifying centre had to be found,

and from the nature of the case it was found in the centre of England, which was in touch with the North and the South, and to a considerable extent would be understood by both. Circumstances, therefore, from which there could be no appeal rendered it imperative that the Bible for all must be in the Middle English speech, which was slowly taking definite literary shape as the English of Chaucer and Wiclif. In this way it came about that Wiclif was the man, and Lutterworth, near Leicester, in the "Middle" of England, was the place, in the second half of the fourteenth century, to give to the English people the first complete Bible in their own tongue.

Reference should be made to a few other versions of the Psalter and other portions of the Scriptures which belong to the period immediately preceding Wiclif. Putting aside such metrical paraphrases as "the Ormulum," a poem, of which only a fragment has come down to us, preserved in the Bodleian, in which the Gospel of each day is first paraphrased, and then elaborately expounded out of the writings of *Ælfric*, Bede, and St. Augustine, by an Augustinian monk named Orm or Ormin; and the story of Genesis and Exodus, written probably in Suffolk about the middle of the thirteenth century; the first work approaching to literal translation is a rendering in verse of the Psalter, written at the end of the same century, and now preserved in the British Museum. The earliest English version in prose of an entire book of Scripture appears to have been a translation of the Psalter and Canticles, side by side with the Latin, made by William of Shoreham or Scorham, who in 1320 was appointed vicar of Chart Sutton, Sevenoaks, Kent, where he had been a monk. This was quickly followed by another translation of the Psalter, together with a commentary, made by Richard Rolle, a chantry priest and hermit of Hampole, near Doncaster, who died in 1349. He also translated and put into verse the Lord's Prayer, the Seven Penitential Psalms, and portions of the Book of Job, but his great work was "The Pricke of Conscience," a poem of 9624 lines in the old Northern dialect.

It is seen, therefore, that both the North and the South of England had men doing the same work at the same time, though probably unknown to each other. These excerpts, as they might

be termed, were not widely circulated, and although they furnished devotional reading for the people of rank and education, they did little to enlighten the community at large in the knowledge of the Scriptures. Yet they prepared the way for Wiclif's great work.

John Wiclif was born in or about the year 1320, at Wycliffe-on-Tees, Richmondshire in Yorkshire, and died at ^{WICLIF.} Lutterworth on the last day of 1384. His life was closely connected with Oxford, where he was in succession Fellow of Merton, Master of Balliol, and Warden of Canterbury Hall. In 1374 he was presented, by the King, to the rectory of Lutterworth, a preferment which he retained until the close of his life, but it cannot be said that his years there were peaceful years, for he was denounced as heretic and infidel by those who resented his uncompromising attacks of their abuses.

More than a century before Luther's time, Wiclif was busy denouncing and exposing the arrogance of the priests, and awaking men's minds. The Church had become very corrupt ; there was corruption in doctrine, corruption in ritual, corruption in discipline, and corruption in the patronage of church livings, and for many years Wiclif was a trenchant and vehement assailant of these ecclesiastical abuses. With voice as well as with pen, he laboured incessantly to effect a reform in the Church. Indeed, he it was who laid the foundation upon which later the reformers, not only in this country, but also in Bohemia and in Germany, reared the mighty structure of the Reformation.

Wiclif maintained that the doctrine and practices he assailed had no warrant or foundation in Scripture, and held that the surest way to put an end to ecclesiastical superstition and presumption was to acquaint the people with the Bible. By word of mouth, by his theses, by his tracts, and finally by his translation of the Bible, he led many men to see the error of the doctrines of the Church.

It is customary to say that Wiclif gave to his countrymen an English version of the entire Bible. Strictly speaking that is not the case, for the whole of the translation was not his work, if, indeed, any part of it was his. He was the centre of a band of colleagues and disciples, participators in this work, whose share

eccl. over dunces whil be distroyed
to/love of partie lvec hanē i nollen.
and of partie the geþroþen to so
pe ltharne par tħal come yar is
þurfe. þat yng/par is of partie
whil be avowde/ltharne / whil
be alial childre/ltharne / whil
under stode as alial childe to/love
ltharne / whil made a māri. / i
voydye wo yngis yat lebet of
alial childe to/love ltharne nob
by anonymus / in drenesse paunie
to/love face to face nob / wolle
of partie. paunie to/love / whil
wolle as i am twelven / wolle
to/love dñkelen fay heþe charre
þes pre to/love ye more of hem
to/love // = // = // = // = // = // = //

þe see charre/love see
charre yngis/more
to/love þat see prophetic/
forþe þe þat lækyn
tung / spacy not to men but
to god. to/love no man beþe / to/þe
to/þe spirit spacy mysteries
to/þe þe þat prophetic. / spacy
to men to edification / & monestryng
& conþorþast þe þat lækyn in
tunge. Edictly hym self/to/love
þe þat prophetic. / conþe þe chil
ðe of god to/love / whil son alle
to/þe spelen tungs. / but more
to/þe prophetic. / wolle þe þat
prophetic. / is more yas be þat
lækyn tungs of tungs. / no
but þaumatur be þat spacy
of certain. þat þe charre tase ca
facion. fould explore brygian
iþ / þat come w þe lækyn
in tungs. / what alial / prophetic
yngis nobis / þat / alial / spacy
to/þe / over in prophetie oper
in tungs. / neþeles þo yngis
yat beþen ouren lhole or þat
yngis doþas over pipe / oper
haþe nobis / þat / per twelven
þue distroyer of tungs.

2.—A PAGE OF AN EARLY WICLIFFE NEW TESTAMENT MANUSCRIPT

The lyt of Abraham

In Uracox he holt etham his lone holt scor ned hym / Et curst hym / And also his sonne Canaan / And Esphode hem and Caput he cast they couered hym / Ande the capes of Noe ther is C. Liges And thermes capes / And after that etham his sonnes dede alle the world sybene hem hem bay all alse / Etam affreys / And Caput all Europe / Thus was it trappe too / If ye in the left part / and is as mode as the other two and that is in the cese / Afrayke is the south part and theris in 10 cartage and many ryche cities / ther is ben blod and black men / Etam had that to his part Africa / The therte part is Europe / which is in the north & Iosef / theris is grete / Rome and Gerres manre / In Europe regneth god mothe the ryghte calde and frysche wher is mo ny ryche Empyre And so was the world reported to the in sonnes of Noe /

Thus endeth the lyt of Noe

Here followeth the lyt of abraham.



Che lordly milled qui
quagme is wile in the
charche of the hyl
patricke Abraham whiche
was sonne of Thar / This
ther was he entyd for Noe in the ges-

neacion of son / Caput had in sonnes /
et than four sonnes / But of the generacio
of them Hembrich am Whiche was a
blacke man and curst in his herbis
And began to make the war of babylone
Whiche was grete and hys / And at the
malysing of this war god changede the
languages / in such wise that no man
Unter/ox other / For before the spredyng
of that war was but one maner speche
in all the world / And ther were made
lyng speche / The war was grete / it
was gryte aboute and b in lyngyn /
stripes of bright / This Hembrich had
the first man that founde malibonete &
yolente / Whiche endurde long and gy
dys / Item I dñe agayne to Dñe
Whiche had the sonnes / Whiche was
abram / Noe and Iacob / Of noore cam
Is / Esse / and Iacob / Of Is am Job
of Isus cam Iacob / And of Iacob dede
a childe Iacob / Of whom am Iacob and is
douglased meleca and farr / Hols j shall
speke of abram of whom our blessed sa
ys come / to beddyng Iacob daughter of
his brother adam / Iacob has erer faith
ful and curte / he has lyng gre old
when his frere dyde / For whiche he was
not yett conforstyd hym / Whiche had
had to abram / Iacob made the wodde &
go out of thy lande and thynde and
also for the hodes of thy fader / and so
me in to the lande that I shall shewe to
the / I shall make the godde in to mock
inge / I shall blesse the and I shall magne
the name and that shal be blessed
and I shall blesse them that curse the / And in the
lande to blessed / All the kynges of the
earth / Iacob has lyng gre old when
he departyd from the lande of Iacob /
And he tolde Iacob hym that his dyng
end lech the sonne of his brether and ther
magne and his curte and substance and
Cain is to the lande of Canaan / in whiche ther
ye people whiche were the people of Ca
is now / And out lande laid to Iacob
I shall greate to the this lande and to thy
spouse / Item Iacob day wyle an ass /
et on Whiche he dyde sacrific / And
blessed and thankyng our lord / Iacob
lefted all the lande abydare the south /
And falle the fader therof and sonne
hit lyke as our fader tolde hym / But he

3.—A PAGE OF CAXTON'S "GOLDEN LEGEND"
Printed about 1483

it is not easy to distinguish. He had one collaborator, in the person of Nicholas Hereford, one of his most ardent followers at Oxford, a man to be remembered with honour, notwithstanding his subsequent backsliding. He it was who made the translation of the Old Testament to the middle of Baruch (iii. 20), which in the Vulgate follows the book of Jeremiah and is not relegated to the Apocrypha. The original manuscript of Hereford's translation, with his alterations and corrections, is preserved in the Bodleian Library, together with another copied from it, in which there is a note assigning the work to Hereford, at the place where his work was interrupted in the middle of 1382 by a summons to appear before Convocation in London, to answer for his opinions. The unfinished books of the Old Testament and the New Testament were added by another hand, believed to be Wyclif's. The Bible was probably completed by the end of the year 1382, so that Wyclif, whose death took place in 1384, had the joy of seeing his hopes fulfilled, and the Scriptures circulated in various forms among his countrymen. To render the work more practically useful, tables of the Lessons and of the Epistles, for Sundays, etc., were added to many copies ; and different portions of the Bible were transcribed and circulated in separate form. (Case 5, Nos. 1-4.)

Even though Wyclif was not the actual translator of the whole of the books of the Bible, or of any of them, there is little doubt that he was the projector and inspirer of the work.

Wyclif's version was made from the Latin Vulgate, in the text commonly current in the fourteenth century, which was far from pure. It was also so exactly literal that in many places the meaning was obscure. Wyclif and his followers would be conscious of these defects, and probably soon after the completion of the first translation a revision was undertaken. Wyclif did not live to see it accomplished, but it was carried to a successful issue in 1388, by John Purvey, one of his followers, and the friend of his last days, who had become notorious for his opinions, and had shared in the disgrace of Nicholas Hereford.

This first triumph of the English Bible was not won without a perilous struggle, and yet, notwithstanding the hostility of the clergy in the fifteenth century, and the wholesale devastation of

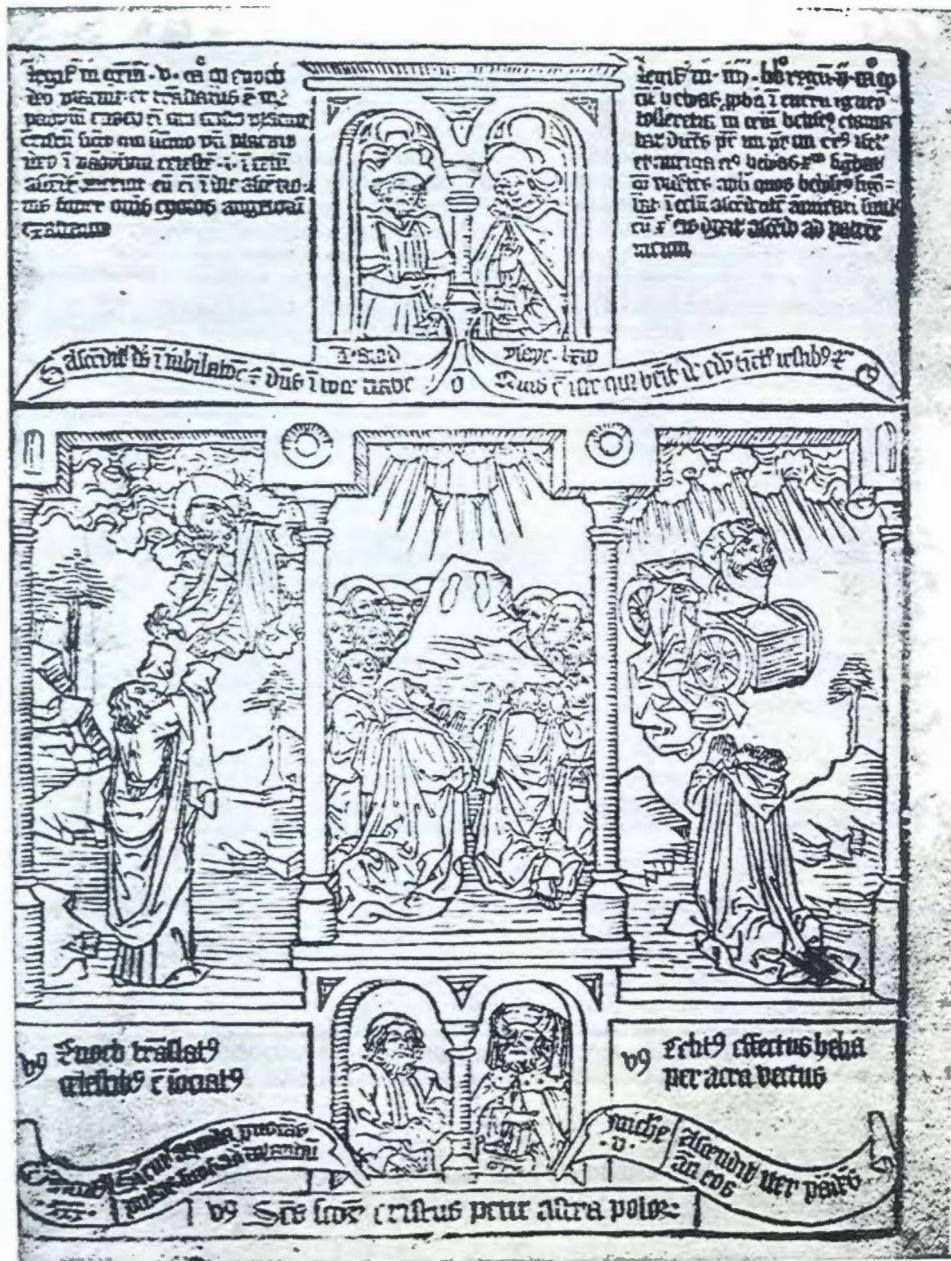
libraries in the sixteenth, not fewer than one hundred and eighty copies of the Wyclifite Bibles, or portions of the Bible, have survived, none of which appear to have been written later than 1450, and of which thirty-three are of the early version, the remainder being of the later, or so-called Purvey revision, which itself, in some rare cases, has undergone another partial revision. Another interesting fact is that nearly half the copies are of small size, such as could be made the constant daily companions of their owners. Others again are noticeable for the rank of those by whom they were once possessed. One belonged to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester ; another to Henry VI ; another to Richard III ; another to Edward VI ; and yet another was presented to Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of her progress through the city of London in 1558-59. (Case 5, No. 3.)

It was not possible for the Wyclifite version, even as amended, to establish itself as a national translation, if only for the reason that it was made from the Vulgate. No translation of a translation can take classic rank, and could the general circulation of this translation have been assured, the completeness of its success, by stimulating the desire for acquaintance with the original language of the sacred writings, must soon have deprived it of special authority. It is, nevertheless, a memorable event in the history of English literature, enriching its language, and aiding to give it consistency, although its limited circulation, the rudimentary character of its prose, and its derivation from an incorrect Latin version, prevented it from exercising that marked influence upon our speech which was exerted later by the versions of William Tindale and succeeding scholars.

The century following Wyclif's death was not productive of any great development of the movement for reform. Wyclif's followers were true to the high trust bequeathed to them. Men like John Purvey and John of Trevisa preached with all their powerful eloquence against the abounding corruptions of the Church, and by so doing called down a still fiercer persecution against the Lollards, as the followers of Wyclif were called, with the result that for a time any outward sign of Wycliff's premature reformation was silenced. The clergy openly boasted that Wyclif's teaching had passed away, and considering that all danger

Quare dicitur deus creatus quod non potest
A primis partibus et ut dixi ab diuina? 1
in omnibus. Ita autem dea: in omniis et
poterat credere deum super factum abili-
tate ipsius dico factum super aquas. Dicitur
autem. Fiat lux. Et facta est lux. Et videt
dixit lucem quod esset bona: et dixit lucis
et omnia: Appelle nomen lucem dianum et
metabas nomen. Factum est usque et
mater dicit utrum. Dicit qd: dura. Fiat
firmamentum in medio aquarum: et dixit
deus aquas ab aquis. Et fecit dux fir-
mantum: dixitque aquas que erant
sub firmamento ab uno qd trans lux
firmamentum: et factum est ita. Et canimus
deus firmamentum oculi: et factum est usque
et mater dico secundum. Dicit uero dux.
Longioraque que sub oculis fuerint
omnes omnes et apparente arida. Et factum est
ita. Et vocatur dux arida et aridam:
longioraque aquae: aquae appellavit
mama. Et videt dux qd esset bona: et
sic. Hoc enim dux bona uocauit et
faciente seminat: et lignum pectinatum factum
factum tunc genus fuit: aut semina in
firmitate factum super omnia. Et factum est ita. Et
procula omnia bona uocauit et faciente
semine tunc bona factum: lignum pectinatum
factum tunc bona. Et videt dux qd esset bona:
et factum est usque et mater dico tercium.
Dicitur autem dux. Fiant lumina in
firmamento oculi: et dividatur dianus ac
nudatur: et lumen in figura et quod est dico et
animos: ut lumen in firmamento oculi et
illuminetur terra. Et factum est ita. Fecit
dux duo lumina magna: lumina et
caerulea in pectore dianus et lumina nigra
ut pectus noctis et bellus: et pectus eius in
firmamento oculi ut lucemur super terram: et

pollent dianus et noctis: et dividetur lumen
ut nocturnas. Et videt dux qd esset bona:
et factum est usque et mater dico quartum.
Dicitur tunc dux. Producatur aqua rapido
auctor misterio: et uolante super terram
sunt facta uentus oculi. Ceterum dux et
grandis: et omnis anima uentus accip-
moriabilis quia pectorum aqua i spacio
lumen: et omnis uolans lumen genere lumen.
Et videt dux qd esset bona: et dividitur
tertium. Et canimus et nescipitramini: et
replet aquas nubes: aquae nescipiti-
rami super terram. Et factum est usque et
mater dico quintum. Dicit quicquid dux. Pro-
ducatur aqua aliam: uentur in genere lumen
et replete et levigata: et levigata et levata
specie lumen. Factum est ita. Et fecit dux
tunc ex uera specie lumen: et omnis rapido
et genere lumen: et genere lumen. Et
videt dux qd esset bona: et sic. Facta
musa bona ad rugaginem: et firmitudinem
noctis: et pectus pectorum maris: et uala-
nitas oculi: et factum est uentus noctis: omnis;
rapido qd mouetur in terra. Et canimus
dux bonorum ad rugaginem: et firmitudinem
lumen: ad rugaginem dux canimus illius ma-
sonum: et bonum canimus eis. Hoc dicitur
q; illius dux: et sic. Secundum: et nescipita-
rami: et replete et levigata: et levigata et levata
specie pectorum maris: et uolantis oculi:
et levigata: et levata: et levigata: et levata
super terram. Dicitur dux. Ecce dux uobis
omnis bona affectum sonum super terram:
et omnis lumen que habet in levigata
semina genere lumen: ut lumen uentre i spacio
et levigata: et levata: et levigata: et levata
oculi: et levigata: et levata: et levigata: et levata
super terram. Dicitur dux. Ecce dux uobis
omnis bona affectum sonum super terram:
et omnis lumen que habet in levigata
semina genere lumen: ut lumen uentre i spacio
et levigata: et levata: et levigata: et levata
oculi: et levigata: et levata: et levigata: et levata
super terram. Dicitur dux. Ecce dux uobis
omnis bona affectum sonum super terram:



5.—A PAGE OF THE "BIBLIA PAUPERUM" (Circa 1450)

was over they resumed their wonted arrogance and evil ways. It was, however, but the sleep before spring, the winter rest which should cause the leaf to be greener, and the blossom to be more fragrant. Like the leaven in the parable the teaching of Wiclif was silently doing its work, not only in this country, but in Bohemia, in Germany, and in other parts of the Continent. Men were being raised up and prepared for the part which they were to perform in that mighty movement which was to characterise the sixteenth century.

The country which, more than any other, was to be distinguished in after years for its zeal in printing and circulating the Scriptures was late in entering the lists. THE
PRINTED
BIBLE. England was nourishing her faith on manuscript copies of the Wyclifite versions long after the time when Bibles in the vernacular were being printed in other countries (Case 4). France had a printed French Bible in 1474; Germany had fourteen printed editions in the national speech before Luther's translation of the New Testament appeared in 1522, the first of which appeared in 1466; and printed versions were in circulation in Italian, Danish, Dutch, Bohemian, Slavonic, Russian, Swedish, and the Valencian dialect of Spanish, long before we made any attempt to print an English Bible (Case 4). Mention should be made, however, of William Caxton's "Golden Legend," published in 1483, which was a translation of the "Legenda Aurea" of Jacobus de Voragine, and which may very properly be placed among the English Bibles, containing, as it does, a fairly literal translation from the Vulgate of nearly the whole of the Pentateuch, and a great part of the Gospels, mixed up with a good deal of mediæval gloss, under the guise of the lives of Adam, Abraham, Moses, the Apostles, and others. The book must have been read extensively by the people, or to the people, long before the days of Tindale and Coverdale, since numerous editions were printed during the latter years of the fifteenth century and the early part of the sixteenth century. Hence, this volume may be said to contain the earliest portion of the Bible printed in English. (Case 5, No. 5.)

On the Continent events were moving with wonderful rapidity.

Indeed, it may be said that the events of the latter half of the fifteenth century are amongst the most remarkable which history has to record of any age. It was the century which witnessed the birth of the printing press, the discovery of the New World, and the revival of learning in Europe.

At the beginning of the fifteenth century the Greek language was almost unknown in Western Europe. A few scholars such as Petrarch had sought to inspire a taste for Greek literature, but with little success. It was with the sudden collapse of the Eastern Empire in 1453, when Constantinople fell into the hands of the Turks, that the revival of Greek learning took place.

REVIVAL OF
GREEK
LEARNING.

Constantinople, from the time when the Emperor Constantine removed the seat of his empire from Rome to Byzantium, thereafter to be known as Constantinople, had become the centre of Greek culture. With the coming of the Turks the Greek scholars were driven into exile, carrying with them their treasured manuscripts. They sought a home, and found a welcome awaiting them in Italy at Venice, at Florence, and at Rome, where Cosmo de' Medici and Pope Nicholas the fifth rivalled each other in the patronage of learning.

The fame of these refugee scholars, who were able and willing to give instruction in the original language of the New Testament, spread rapidly, with the result that students from all parts of Europe were attracted to this new centre of Greek culture, so that the event which sounded like the death knell of Christianity in Europe, was, in reality, the cause of its revival, for it brought to the West a knowledge of the New Testament in the original tongue, the language which had been denounced in England by the Church authorities as the language of pagans and heretics.

England was slow to welcome the new learning, and it was not until the year 1491 that Greek was publicly taught at Oxford, whilst at Paris a public teacher of the language had been appointed as early as 1458.

William Grocyn, the first teacher of Greek at Oxford, was one of a little band of Oxford students, including Thomas Linacre, William Latimer, Thomas More, William Lily, and later

John Colet, who, having been attracted to Italy by the fame of the Greek teachers, returned to the mother-country full of the new learning, which was to conduce to a better education in the schools and colleges.

John Colet, a young scholar not yet in priest's orders, afterwards to become famous as the Dean of St. Paul's ^{COLET.} and as the founder of St. Paul's School, reading for the first time the New Testament in the original tongue, became so fired with enthusiasm that he began to proclaim his good news at Oxford, by lecturing on the Epistles of St. Paul. He was listened to, we are told, with breathless interest, even by the great dons, for his manner of lecturing was so novel, he had so much love in his work, and his words flowed with such ease and grace, that none could tire even though they might disagree. The fame of his lectures spread, not only throughout England, but to the Continent, attracting from Rotterdam Desiderius Erasmus, the scholar who subsequently became the greatest literary figure in Europe.

Erasmus himself tells us that his religious opinions were to a large extent moulded by this intercourse with Colet ; and although in after years we are inclined to blame him for his vacillation and timidity, we are compelled to acknowledge the great service which he rendered to the cause of religion in Europe in general, and to this country in particular, by the influence which his lectures had upon the life and character of those of his scholars who were to carry forward to its accomplishment the mighty movement of the Reformation.

Thomas More, afterwards to become famous as Chancellor of Cambridge University, and Lord Chancellor of England, was also attracted to Oxford by the fame of Colet's lectures, and there commenced a life-long friendship with Erasmus. More, Archbishop Wareham and Bishop Fisher became the patrons of this famous Dutch scholar, and it was through their influence that some twelve years later, in or about the year 1511, he was appointed Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity at Cambridge, and later lectured also on Greek.

The teaching of Erasmus at this time was revolutionary in the extreme, and gave great offence to the church authorities. He contended that men should not any longer study theology in Duns Scotus and Thomas Aquinas, but should go to the Fathers of the Church, and above all to the New Testament. He showed that the Latin Vulgate swarmed with faults, and rendered an immense service to the truth by publishing his critical edition of the Greek text with a new Latin translation (Case 3, No. 6).

ERASMUS'S
GREEK
TESTAMENT.

This first published Greek New Testament reached England, from Basel, in 1516. In bare justice to the printer, John Froben of Basel, it should be explained that the credit for this project belongs to this enterprising printer. It came about in this way : Froben became aware that the New Testament volume of the Complutensian Polyglot Bible, which had been prepared and printed through the exertions and at the expense of the learned Spanish Cardinal Ximenes, at Alcala, was ready for issue in 1514, but that for some reason, authority to circulate it was withheld. This Bible takes its name from Complutum, the Latin form of Alcala, the town in Spain where it was printed. The plan of the work was conceived in 1502, in honour of the birth of the future Emperor Charles V, but it does not appear to have been in circulation until 1522 (Case 3, No. 5). Desirous of anticipating the edition of Alcala, Froben wrote to Erasmus, requesting him to prepare an edition of the Greek text, accompanied by a new Latin translation, with all possible dispatch. The work was commenced in April, 1515, and was printed and ready for circulation by April of the following year.

One of the results of this hurried execution of the work was that it contained many faults, and in consequence its critical value was impaired. A revised edition appeared in 1519, and a third edition in 1522.

This work of Erasmus and Froben was for the learned. It was for a Luther and a Tindale to make use of the work of such men as Erasmus, and translate it into the language of the people.

Without doubt it was this work of Erasmus that first suggested to William Tindale his noble design of translating the Word of God into the language of his countrymen. The following



REFERT HEC TABELLA QVOD SOLVM POTVIT ARS GUILIELMI TYNDALL. HVIS OLIM AVLE ALVMNI, SIMVL
ET ORNAMENTI QVI POST FELICES PVRIORIS THEOLOGIE PRIMITIAS HIC DEPOSITAS, ANTVEPLÆ IN NO-
VO TESTAMENTO, NEC NON PENTATEUCHO IN VERNACVLAM TRANFERENDO OPERAM NAVAVIT, ANGLIS
SVIS EO VSQ. SALVIFERAMVT INDE NON IMMERITO ANGLIE APOSTOLVS AUDIRET MARTYRIO WILFORDE PROPE
BRYTELAS CORONATVS A 1536 VIRTEL ADVERSARIO PROGRADIBVS NEMPE IMPERTORIS GENERALI CREDAMVS PERDOCTVS PIUS ET BONUS.

Engraved by N. W. Cook, for Samuel Bagster & Son.

6.—WILLIAM TYNDALE

From the Magdalene Hall Portrait now in Hertford College, Oxford

passage drawn from the “Paraclesis ad lectorem pium” or “Exhortation,” prefixed by Erasmus to his New Testament, finds an echo in one of the most memorable utterances of Tindale. This “Exhortation” was translated into English, probably by William Roye, and printed at Antwerp under the fictitious imprint of “Marburg,” in 1529 under the title : “An exhortation to the diligent studye of Scripture.” We quote from the English translation in a slightly modernised form :

“ I would desire that all women should read the Gospel and Paul’s epistles ; and I would to God that they were translated into the tongues of all men. So that they might not only be read, and known of the Scots and Irishmen, but also of the Turks and Saracens. Truly it is one degree to good living, yea the first (I had almost said the chief) to have a little sight in the Scripture, though it be but a gross knowledge and not yet consummate. . . . I would to God the ploughman would sing a text of the Scripture at his ploughbeam, and that the weaver at his loom with this would drive away the tediousness of time. I would the wayfaring man with this pastyme would expel the weariness of his journey. And to be short I would that all the communication of the Christian should be of the Scripture, for in a manner such are we ourselves as our daily tales are.” (Case 3, No. 7.)

Turning now to the man, who, more than any other, has left the impress of his scholarship and character upon TINDALE. the history of our national Bible, we find that the birth and early life of William Tindale are involved in obscurity and uncertainty.

Great characters have not infrequently been raised from an obscurity which has baffled all research. The lives of the greatest saints are little more than legends, whilst of the great master minds of the past a few pages will often contain all that can authentically be told. This is precisely what has happened in the case of Tindale.

Tradition says he was born at North Nibley in Gloucestershire, where a monument has been erected to his memory, but no documentary evidence to support the tradition can be discovered. The honour is also claimed for Hurst Manor, Slimbridge, with perhaps more probably, although here again there is as yet no direct evidence to establish the claim. It is at least interesting, however, to find that the church living at Slimbridge was, and is still, in the gift of Magdalen College, Oxford, and that it was

at Magdalen Hall young Tindale was entered when the time came for him to go up to Oxford. There is little doubt that Gloucestershire was his native county, a county which was held to be the very stronghold of the Church, having six mitred abbeys within its borders, and possessing the most famous relic in the kingdom, "The Blood of Hailes," said to be the blood of Christ, contained in a phial, preserved in the Abbey of Hailes, near Winchcombe, the sight of which was supposed to ensure eternal salvation. So predominant was the influence of the clergy throughout the county that "as sure as God is in Gloucester" had come to be a familiar proverb all over England. Nowhere, probably, was religion more entirely a thing of form and ceremony; and of all these ceremonies, in many cases unmeaning, and in not a few grotesque and ridiculous, young Tindale, shrewd and thoughtful from his childhood, was no inattentive observer. When at a subsequent period he directed all the energy of his pen against the superstitious practices sanctioned by the Church, his recollection of what he had witnessed around him in his youth furnished him with endless illustrations with which to point his arguments.

The same degree of obscurity hangs over the precise year of Tindale's birth, and also over his parentage. Could the former be ascertained with certainty, it would help us to fix definitely the latter question. Tindale, himself, was very cautious of ever saying anything respecting his relatives, lest they should become involved in the pitiless storm of persecution to which he was subjected. His younger brother, John, did actually become involved, in consequence of letters passing between our translator and him, which he failed to deliver up to the authorities.

Among various legends afloat regarding Tindale's family, one is to the effect that they came from the North during the Wars of the Roses, and for a time adopted, probably for purposes of concealment, the name of Hitchins, variously spelt Hotchyns, Hytchyns, Huchens and Hychyns. In Boase and Clarke's "Register of the University of Oxford" (1885), our translator is entered under the name of William Huchens or Hychyns, and we shall find that in a certain number of documents, to which we shall have occasion to refer, he is frequently referred to as

"William Hichyns sometimes called William Tindale." In the introduction to the first edition (1528) of his "The Obedience of a Christian Man," Tindale describes himself in the opening lines as : "William Hychins unto the Reader." The name of Hitchins was afterwards abandoned, and the family resumed their old and rightful one of Tindale.

Various years from 1484 to 1495 have been conjectured as the year of Tindale's birth. If we adopt a year midway between the two, it would make him about forty-five at the time of his death, which would agree with John Foxe's description of him as middle-aged at that period.

At an early age Tindale was sent to the University of Oxford, where he imbibed something of Colet's spirit of enthusiasm, and the new principles with which he impregnated the scholars of his own and the succeeding generations. He was entered at Magdalen Hall, at that time a dependency of Magdalen College, and governed by one of the Fellows of that Society. It became an independent Hall in 1602, and was dissolved in 1874, when it was incorporated as Hertford College. John Foxe in his "Acts and Monuments of the latter and perillous dayes touching matters of the Church . . ." (1563), tells us of Tindale that : "by long continuance at the University he grew up and increased as well in the knowledge of tongues and other liberal arts, as especially in the knowledge of the Scriptures, whereunto his mind was singularly addicted." Having proceeded to the degrees of the schools (according to the "Register of the University of Oxford" he took his B.A. degree in 1513, and proceeded to his M.A. in 1515 or 1516), Tindale removed from Oxford to Cambridge, attracted, it is thought, by the fame of the teaching of Erasmus, who for several years, commencing in 1511, was teaching Divinity and Greek at the sister University, where, as Foxe tells us, our translator "further ripened in the knowledge of God's Word." Here no doubt he perfected himself in Greek, for on his arrival in London, in 1523, he was in a position to produce proof of his qualifications as a translator. He himself tells us in the prologue, "W.T. to the Reader," prefixed to his translation of the Pentateuch (1530), that he brought with him "an oration of Isocrates which I had translated out of Greke in to English."

It was during Tindale's residence at Cambridge that Erasmus's Greek Testament was published, and was eagerly welcomed by the students. It is scarcely credible to-day that, at that time, candidates for the priesthood were forbidden by order of Convocation to translate any part of the Scriptures, or to read them without the authority of the Bishop, an authority which was seldom granted. Yet, in defiance of these orders, Tindale and a few of the bolder spirits at the University ventured to read the Bible privily.

In the year 1521 Tindale left Cambridge to act as chaplain to Sir John Walsh of Little Sodbury, Gloucester, and as tutor to his children. There, around the table of Sir John Walsh, who was a very hospitable man, keeping open house, Tindale came into contact with many of the church dignitaries of the neighbourhood, which, we are told, swarmed with priests. Much learned talk took place around Sir John's hospitable board, and the young chaplain often came into violent controversy with the "divers great beneficed men, as abbots, deans, archdeacons, and other divers doctors and learned men who resorted thither." Tindale never hesitated to express his own opinions, which often differed from those of his master's guests, and, in order to refute their errors, he would confront them with the appropriate "open and manifest Scripture." This matter-of-fact way of dealing with their arguments gave great offence to these divines, and they bore Tindale a secret grudge.

One day Lady Walsh, who had listened to these hot arguments, took Tindale aside, and said to him : "Master Tindale is it reasonable, think you, that we should accept your opinions rather than the opinions of these learned men ? You are a young man fresh from the University, they are men of learning and experience." Tindale felt the force of the rebuke, and at once set to work to translate from Latin into English, a little book, written by Erasmus in 1501, entitled "Enchiridion Militis Christiani," or "The Manual of a Christian Knight," which was a bold outspoken protest against the wicked lives of the monks and friars. Here was the authority for his views, no less an authority than his master and spiritual guide, the learned Erasmus ; surely this would convince those who had refused to be persuaded by his own arguments, and by Scripture. This he presented to his

master and lady, and we are told that after they had read the book, “ those great prelates were no more so often called to the house, nor, when they came, had the cheer and countenance as they were wont to have ; the which they did well perceive, and that it was by the means and incensing of Master Tindale, and at last came no more there.” (Case 6, No. 11.)

It was about this time that Tindale first announced his intention of translating the Bible into English. Happening one day to fall into argument with one of the reputed learned divines, who, in the heat of disputation, was led to assert : “ We were better be without God’s laws than the Pope’s,” Tindale startled those around him by declaring : “ I defy the Pope and all his laws . . . if God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough shall know more of the Scriptures than thou doest.” These words were probably suggested to Tindale by that striking passage in Erasmus’s “ Exhortation ” to his edition of the Greek-Latin Testament already quoted (p. 20).

It soon became evident to Tindale that Little Sodbury would no longer serve as a safe retreat for one who gave utterance to such views and that the work of translation could not be carried out there. He resolved, therefore, to leave Little Sodbury and remove to London, in the hope of finding a sympathetic and liberal patron in the person of the Bishop of London (Cuthbert Tunstall), whose great learning had been praised by Erasmus.

Furnished with letters of introduction by Sir John Walsh to Sir Harry Guildford, the King’s controller of the TINDALE IN
LONDON. Royal Household, who was requested to intercede with the Bishop on his behalf, and with an earnest of his scholarship in the form of a translation of one of the orations of Isocrates, Tindale made his way to London in the middle of 1523. Arrived there, he presented himself at the Bishop of London’s palace, only to learn from the Bishop himself that his house was full, and to be advised to seek a service in London. To quote Tindale’s own words : “ And so in London I abode almost one year, . . . and understood at the last, not only that there was no room in my lord of London’s palace to translate the New Testament, but also that there was no place to do it in all England.”

Here was the testing time, and here shines forth the personality which has so unalterably moulded the English Bible. If the work could only be done in exile, in secret and in peril of life, these were but potent reasons why it should be done, and done quickly.

During this year of anxious waiting in London, Tindale obtained a curacy at St. Dunstan's in the West, in Fleet Street, and was soon attracting great crowds, who came to hear this young priest who spoke so plainly that all could understand. He found a home in the house of Humphrey Monmouth, a cloth merchant of London, who proved himself at the time, and also in after years, a zealous and loving friend. When at last compelled to renounce the hope of carrying out this self-imposed task of translating the New Testament in England, Tindale did not hesitate to give up his country in favour of his work.

In the month of May, 1524, Tindale left London for Hamburg, and there, during a residence of little more than a ^{TINDALE IN HAMBURG.} year, he completed his translation of the New Testament. Of his movements during that period nothing is definitely known. Nor do we know exactly what he accomplished. Sir Thomas More in his "Dyaloge" asserts that : "Tindale, as soon as he got him hence got him to Luther straight," and further adds that, at the time of his translation of the New Testament, he was with Luther at Wittenberg ; and that the confederacy between him and Luther was a thing well known. Tindale, in his reply, simply denies that he was confederate with Luther, and all the evidence we possess is against such a visit having been paid.

John Foxe in his "Lyfe and Martyrdome of John Frith"¹ (1573) tells us that : "William Tindale first placed himselfe in Germany and there did first translate the Gospel of St. Mathewe into Englishe, and after, the whole New Testament." This mention of Matthew, by itself, certainly appears to imply some distinction, but as Christopher Anderson in his "Annals" has pointed out, the real state of the case was that Tindale not only "first translated Matthew," but printed it, and the Gospel of Mark also.

¹ "The Whole Workes of W. Tyndall, John Frith . . ." London, 1573.

Both of these were bitterly denounced at the beginning of 1527, after having been read, as a publication not only separate from the New Testament and its prologue, but as printed previously.

This view seems to find confirmation in a number of documents which, fortunately, have been preserved in the British Museum and elsewhere. In a letter from Robert Ridley, chaplain to Bishop Tunstall, to Henry Gold, dated the 24th February, 1527, in which Tindale is referred to as "William Hichyns, otherwise called William Tyndale"; in the Confession of John Robert Necton; and in a Confession of John Tyball, a Lollard charged with heresy, both printed in Strype's "Ecclesiastical Memorials," reference is made again and again to separate editions of the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. Mark, with commentaries and annotations, which are described as "the first prents." There is also a reference to the preface in the "second prents," which may allude to a second edition of these separate gospels. These, and other statements and confessions, were made by people who had actually seen, handled, or possessed such copies.¹

Unfortunately, not a single copy, or even the fragment of a copy, of these "first prents" is at present known to have survived. This need not surprise us, for in the eager search for the Scriptures, with a view to their being destroyed, they may sometimes have been given up to save a Testament. There can be little doubt, however, that we have in these Gospels Tindale's earliest effort to benefit his countrymen.

Having completed the translation of the New Testament, with the help of William Roye, who for some time acted as TINDALE AT COLOGNE. amanuensis, Tindale, in the latter half of 1525, found his way to Cologne, a town famous for its printers, where he entered into an arrangement with Peter Quentell to print his New Testament. Here we are on firm ground, thanks to the letters left by Johann Dobneck, or, as he called himself, Cochlaeus, one

¹ The documents to which we refer, together with many others of great interest, have been collected into a volume by Dr. A. W. Pollard, and published under the title: "Records of the English Bible: documents relating to the translation and publication of the Bible in English: 1525-1611" (1911). In the publication of this volume Dr. Pollard has rendered to students of the history of our national Bible an inestimable service.

of the bitterest and fiercest enemies of the Reformation, who was at the time living in exile at Cologne, engaged in literary work. He triumphantly records his successes in embarrassing, and in partly frustrating Tindale's work. He has left three accounts of his exploit, written respectively in 1533, 1538, and 1549. The last, which is the fullest, is contained in his "Commentaria . . . de actis et scriptis Martini Lutheri . . ." (1549). Becoming pretty intimate and familiar with the Cologne printers, one day he heard them boasting confidently over their wine, that whether the King and Cardinal of England liked it or not, all England would soon be Lutheran. He heard also that there were in hiding two learned Englishmen, skilled in languages, and ready of speech, whom, however, he could never see nor speak to. Dobneck therefore asked certain printers to his inn, and, after he had warmed them with wine, one of them in confidential talk revealed to him the secret by which England was to be brought over to the side of Luther, namely, that there were in the press three thousand copies of the Lutheran New Testament translated into English, and that in the order of the quires they had got as far as letter K. . . . In other words, the work had progressed a little beyond the end of St. Matthew's Gospel, filling ten quires of eight pages each, or eighty pages in all. The identity of the two Englishmen (Tindale and Roye, his amanuensis) seems to have been unknown to Dobneck at that time. (Case 6, No. 1.)

This English translation, Dobneck tells us, was brought to Cologne by the two Englishmen that it might be multiplied by the printers into many thousands, and concealed among other merchandise, might find a way into England. So great was their confidence that they had sought to have 6000 copies printed, but through the timidity of the printers only 3000 were issued. The expense, says Dobneck, was met by English merchants, who had also engaged to convey the work secretly into England, and to diffuse it widely over the country.

On receiving this information Dobneck lost no time in revealing the plot to Hermann Rinck, a nobleman of Cologne, well-known to King Henry VIII, and to the Emperor Charles V, who, having convinced himself of the correctness of the account received, went to the Senate, and obtained an interdict of the

The prologue.



Malie hysse translatyd

(brether and suster moost dere and
tenderly beloued in Christ) the new
we Testament for yourc spirituall es
dysyng / consolacion / and solas:
Exhortyng instantly and besedchyng
those that are better sene in the tonge
then y / and that have hyer gysis of
grace to interpret the sence of the scr
ipture / and meanyng of the spyritu
al / then y / to consydre and pondre my
laboure / and that with the spyrite
of mefenes. And yf they perceyve in'eny places that y have
not attayned the very sence of the tonge / or meanyng of
the scripture / or haue not geven the right englyssh he wodde /
that they put to there handys to amende it / remembryng that so
is ther cōdictic to doo. For we have not recyved the gysis of god
for oure selues only / or for to hyde them: but for to bestowe them
vnto the hononringe of god and christ / and edysyng of the cons
gregacion / vchich is the body of christ.

The causes that moved me to translate / y thought better
that others shulde ymagion / then that y shulde rehearce them.
More over y supposed yt superfluous / for who ys so blynde to
cre wylyght shulde be shewed to them that walke in dercf
nes / where they cannot but stombly / and whereto stembly ys
the daunger of eternall damnacion / ether so despoyghtfull
that he wolde envye eny man (y speake nett his brother) so
necessary a thinge / or so bedleyn madde to affirme that good
is the naturall cause of yuelt / and derckenys to procede oute of
lyght / and that lynghe shulde be grounded in troughe and
verytie / and note rather clenc contrary / that lyght destro
yeth derckenys / and veritie reproacheth affmanner lynghe.

¶

7.—FIRST PAGE OF THE PROLOGUE IN THE GRENVILLE FRAGMENT OF THE
COLOGNE “NEW TESTAMENT,” 1525 (British Museum)

The gosvill of S. Matheu.

The syrte Chapter.



Hys ys the boke of

the generaciō of Jesuſ Chriſt the ſonē of David/ The ſonne alſo of Abrahaṁ / Abraham begatt Isaac: Chā. Abraham and
David are fyſt re- heartsid/ because
Isaac begatt Jacob: that chriſte was
Jacob begatt Judas and hys bre- cheſtly promyſed
Judas begatt Phares: (thren: vneothem.

and Zaram of thamer;
Phares begatt Esrom:
Esrom begatt Aram:
Aram begatt Aminadab:

Aminadab begatt naaffan:

Naaffan begatt Salmon:

Salmon begatt boos of rahab:

Boos begatt obed of ruth:

Obed begatt Jesse:

Jesse begatt dauid the kyngē:

Dauid the kyngē begatt ſolemon/ of her that was the
Solemon begat roboam: (wyſe of vry:

Roboam begatt Abias:

Abia begatt asa:

Asa begatt iſaphat:

Iſaphat begatt Jeram:

Jeram begatt Osias:

Osias begatt Joatham:

Joatham begatt Achas:

Achas begatt Ezechias:

Ezechias begatt Manassee:

Manassee begatt Imon:

Imen begatt Josias:

Josias begatt Jeconias and his brethren about the tyme of
the captivitie of babilen

After they were led captive to babilen/ Jeconias begatt the deu. p.v.c.

Saynt matheu
levereth out certeyn
yne generacionis/
2 describeth Lh/
ristes linage from
solomō/ after the
lawe of Moses/
but Lucas describeth
it accordyng
to nature/ fro naſ
than solomōs br/
other. For the laſ
we calleth them
a mannes childre
which his brother
begatt of his wyſe
fe leſſe behynde
him after his deaſ

work. News of this action by the Senate reached Tindale's ears, who at once, in company with Roye, rushed to the printers : " snatching away with them the quarto sheets printed, fled by ship, going up the Rhine to Worms, where the people were under the full rage of Lutheranism, that there by another printer they might complete the work begun."

Worms was a city in every way favourable to Tindale's purpose. It was the headquarters of Lutheranism, TINDALE AT WORMS. where four years earlier Luther had triumphantly defended his doctrines before Charles V, whereas Cologne was devoted to the Roman faith.

Here, the work commenced and interrupted at Cologne, was recommenced at the press of Peter Schoeffer, the son of the companion of Gutenberg and Fust at Mainz. It is impossible to say whether the quarto edition commenced at Cologne was ever completed. It is thought that it was abandoned, and the edition in a smaller octavo size, without the prologue, sidenotes, or glosses was commenced, in order, according to Merle d'Aubigné, to mislead the inquisitors.

If the two editions had been set up from the same manuscript copy we should have expected the texts to be identical. Such, however, is not the case. It is true that the differences between the two are very slight, yet there are differences. We cannot collate the whole Testament, but a careful collation of the Grenville fragment of the Cologne quarto with the corresponding portion of the octavo Worms edition reveals the fact that there are not only numerous variations in orthography, but fifty differences of text in 740 verses. Many of these are of very little consequence, but some of them show the hand of the careful reviser, in the manner of omitting unnecessary words, or of improving the style. If they were both set up from the same manuscript copy, it is obvious that Tindale subjected the text to a very thorough scrutiny and revision in proof, as it passed through the press.

By a piece of good fortune a single copy, consisting of eight of the ten sheets, lacking only the first leaf, of the Cologne quarto has been preserved, and is now in the British Museum,

forming part of the bequest of the Right Honourable Thomas Grenville.

The story of the discovery, or recovery, and identification of this fragment will bear repetition. In 1836 Mr. Thomas Rodd, a bookseller, of Great Newport Street, London, acquired from a friend, by way of exchange, a quarto tract of Oecolampadius which had bound up with it some black-letter sheets in English. These, upon examination, proved to be part of St. Matthew's Gospel, preceded by fourteen pages of a prologue. Neither Mr. Rodd, nor his friend, understood at the time what it actually was. By degrees this was ascertained, through the accidental discovery of the initial, with which the first page of the prologue is decorated, in another book printed at Cologne in 1534. As the result of further search Mr. Rodd succeeded in finding all the other cuts and letters in books printed at the office of Peter Quentell. The fragment was acquired by the Right Honourable Thomas Grenville, the statesman, and book-lover; and at his death, in 1846, it passed into the possession of the British Museum, with his splendid library of 20,000 volumes, which is now one of the glories of the national institution, of which for many years he was a trustee.

By the end of the year 1525 some thousands of copies of the Testaments printed at Worms were ready for distribution, and without doubt in two sizes. (Case 6, No. 2.)

DISTRIBUTION
OF THE
TESTAMENT.

Unfortunately, no copy of the Worms quarto edition has come down to us, and therefore, as we have already remarked, it is quite impossible to determine whether it was an edition incorporating and completing the sheets printed at Cologne, or an entirely new edition with glosses. We are disposed to favour the latter view, which the following documentary evidence seems to confirm.

Dobneck makes definite reference to a quarto edition published at Worms, and speaks of 6000 copies printed in that city, which renders it probable that both the quarto and the octavo editions, like the projected Cologne quarto, consisted of 3000 copies each.

The fyrt pistle off

S. Peter the
Apostle.



The fyrt Chapter.

Peter an Apostle of Jesu Christ to the that dwell here and there as straungers thorowe out Pontus, Galacia, Capas, Doccia, Asia, and Bethinia etc. By the fforknowledge off God the father, thorow the sanctifringe off the sprete unto obedience and spryntlynge of the bloud off Jesus Christ. Grace be with you, and peace be multiplied.

Blessed be God the father off our lord Jesus Christ, which thorow his abundant mercie began us agayne unto a lively hope, by the resurrection off Jesus Christ from death, to eternall life in inheritance immortal, and undesilled, and that puttifieth not reserved in heve for you which are kept by the power off god thorow faith, unto helth, which health is prepared all ready to be shewed in the last tyme in the which tyme ye shall rejoyce, though nowe for a season (if neede require) ye are in hevines, thorow many of temptacions, thatycure fayth encettled beinge moche more precious then golde that perissheth (though it be tried wylth fyre) myght be founde unto lawde, glory, and honoure, when Jesus Christ shall appear whom ye have not seen.

Second Cor. 1. Ephe-

phanius. 26.

To the Reder.

Ere diligence Reder (I exhortethe) that thou come with a pure mynde / and as the scripture sayth with a syngle eye / vnto the wordes of heyl / ad of eternall lyfe: by the which (if we repente ad beleue them) we are borne a newe created a freesse / ad enioye the frutes off the bloud of Christ. Whiche bloud cryeth not for vegeaunce / as the bloud of Abel: but hath purchased lyfe / love / favour / grace / blesyng / and what soever is promysed in the scriptures / to them thyt at beleue and obeye God: and stondeth betwene vs and wt the vengeance / curse / and what soever the scripture threateneth agaynst the vns belevers and disobedient / which resist / and consent not in their hertes to the lawe of god / that it is ryght / holy / iuste / and ought so to be.

Marke the playne ad manifest places of the scriptures / and in doutfull places / sethou adde no interpretacio contraty to them: but (as paul sayth) let all be conformable ad agreyng to the

Cloote the difference of the lawe / ad / fayth / of the gospell. The one ar eth and requyret / the wother pardon eth and forgor eth. The onethres ar eth / the wother promyseth all good thyngs / to them that sett their trust in Christ only. The gospell signifieth gladde tydying / and is nothyng but the promyses off good thynges. All is not gospell that is writte i the gospell boke: For if the lawe were a waye / thou couldest not know what the gospell meante. Even as thou couldest not se pardon / favour / and grace / excepte the lawe rebuked the / and declared unto thy the sinnes myndes / and trespasses.

Repent and beleue the gospell as sayth Christ

Furthermore, we have the evidence of Humphrey Monmouth, the London friend of Tindale, who was no doubt in constant communication with our translator at this time. In his answer to the twenty-four articles of heresy charged against him,¹ he states ". . . Tindale left Hamburg for Cologne in the summer of 1525. He probably stayed not long there ; but being discovered he escaped with Roye up the Rhine, and came to Worms about September, 1525 ; and then and there, working unremittingly, the actual translation being probably already finished, saw the two editions through the press by the end of the year."

In other documents, to be found reprinted in Dr. Pollard's "Records of the English Bible," there are constant references to "copies with gloss," "the gret volume," "of the biggest," which evidently refer to a quarto edition ; whilst references to "copies without gloss," and "the smal volume" must indicate the octavo edition. On the 24th October, 1526, Bishop Tunstall, in an injunction to the Archdeacons, denounced both impressions, "some with glosses, others without," and on the 3rd November following, Archbishop Warham did the same in almost identical terms.

In addition to the warnings of Dobneck and Rinck, there came to the King and Cardinal Wolsey other tidings of this threatened invasion of England by the Word of God. Writing to the King, in December, 1525, Edward Lee, the King's Almoner, who became Archbishop of York in 1531, states that he "learns that an Englishman hath translated the Newe Testament in to English, and within a few days entendeth to arrive with the same emprinted in England."

The King and Wolsey did everything in their power to defeat this invasion. Fortunately, the enterprise of the merchants was more than a match for the power of the sovereign and the hostility of the bishops, and in spite of all warning and precautions the Word of God was smuggled into England, by being packed in the centre of bales of cotton and other merchandise, and was widely circulated to the joy and comfort of many who had long walked in darkness.

One of the chief agents for the distribution of the Testaments in England was Simon Fyshe, the author of "The Supplycacion

¹ Strype : "Ecclesiastical Memorials" (1822), I, pt. 2, pp. 363-7.

for the Beggers," described as born of noble stock, a gentleman of Grays Inn, who lived in Whitefriars, London, and was busily engaged in superintending the sale of the New Testaments, which he had received from Richard Harman, a merchant of the English Nation at Antwerp. In a confession made in London, apparently in 1528, by Robert Necton, we have precise and interesting evidence as to this distribution. He states that he bought at sundry times of Mr. Fyshe many New Testaments, now five, now twenty, and sometimes more and sometimes less, to the number of 20 or 30 "in the gret volume." In a later part of the confession he goes on to say : that he (Fyshe) had no New Testaments or other book, except "Chapters of Matthew." He also gives us information as to the price at which the New Testaments were being sold, by stating that he sold five for seven and eight grotes a piece, i.e. two shillings and fourpence and two and eightpence, equal to twenty-eight and thirty-two shillings of our present day money.¹ To one of the indictments he replies that a certain Duche, i.e. German in the Flete, would have solde him two to three hundred copies, which were evidently offered at a bargain price of ninepence a piece, but he did not buy them.

Finding that, in spite of all the precautions, the Testaments and other heretical books were being circulated throughout England, Wolsey took steps to suppress the seditious books. To this end a simultaneous search was made, and all copies were ordered by the Cardinal and Archbishop Warham to be given up. At the same time the Bishop of Rochester (Fisher) was charged to preach at St. Paul's Cross, denouncing the books as replete with dangerous heresies, and at the conclusion of the sermon, at which Wolsey was present, surrounded by a great company of abbots, friars, and bishops, great baskets of the heretical books were brought out and burned. This first sermon, which was preached on the 11th of February, 1526, was followed by another in October of the same year, at which the Bishop of London (Tunstall) was the preacher, when

BURNING
OF THE
TESTAMENT.

¹ The purchasing power of money in the reign of Henry VIII, as compared with the present day, may be approximately determined by multiplying it twelve times. Hence £10 then would represent about £120 to-day.

the Tindale Testaments were denounced and publicly burnt. It was on the latter occasion that the people were told that there were three thousand errors in the translation, which, for the most part, are nothing more than so many new meanings attached to old words.

A confused rumour of this burning seems to have reached Rome, and there is extant a letter written by Cardinal Campeggio to Wolsey, under date of the 21st November, 1526, in which he praises Wolsey's diligence in the glorious and saving work being carried on in this kingdom for the protection of the Christian religion, in that to the great praise and glory of his Majesty he had most justly caused to be burned a copy of the Holy Bible, which had been mistranslated into the common tongue by the faithless followers of Luther's abominable sect to pervert the pious mind of simple believers, and had been brought into this kingdom. Assuredly no burnt offering could be more pleasing to Almighty God.

These denunciations and burnings of the New Testament seem to have had the very opposite effect to that aimed at. They were the means of calling attention to it, and of stimulating interest in it, to such an extent that the demand for copies increased, and one printer, apparently Christoffel van Endhoven of Antwerp, was encouraged to issue at least one unauthorised edition in the course of 1526. He was in trouble about it with the city authorities by the end of that year, and in 1531 died in prison at Westminster, as a result of trying to sell Testaments in England.

Wolsey was determined to strike terror to the heart of the enemy, and so rigorously were his orders carried out that only one fragment of the Cologne quarto and two copies of the Worms octavo edition have survived. The former, as we have already stated, is preserved in the British Museum. Of the latter, the most complete of the two copies, apparently wanting only one leaf, is in the Baptist College, Bristol, the other, wanting about seventy leaves, is in the library of St. Paul's Cathedral. (Case 6, No. 2.)

The history of the Baptist College copy is told by Mr. Francis Fry in the introduction to "The First New Testament printed in

the English language. . . . Reproduced in fascimile with an introduction by F. Fry," Bristol, 1862.

The Testament was picked up by one of Lord Oxford's collectors, and was esteemed so valuable a purchase that he gave ten pounds for it, and settled an annuity of twenty pounds for life upon the fortunate discoverer. Soon after Lord Oxford's death in 1741, the famous collection of printed books, better known as "The Harleian collection," numbering about 50,000 volumes, was sold to Thomas Osborne, the bookseller of Gray's Inn, for about thirteen thousand pounds. Osborne marked the Testament at fifteen shillings, at which price it was purchased by Herbert Ames. At the sale of the latter's books in 1760 it was acquired by John White for fourteen and a half guineas. On the 13th May, 1776, White sold it to the Rev. Dr. Gifford for twenty guineas. Dr. Gifford was an assistant librarian in the British Museum from 1757 until his death in 1784, when the Testament passed by bequest, with his valuable collection of books, manuscripts, pictures, and curios, to the Baptist College, where it has since remained, rightly regarded as the most priceless and treasured of the possessions of the College.

Still more was needed to be done, in the estimation of the Cardinal, if this evil was to be arrested, and part of the general scheme of attack seems to have been the buying up of all the copies of the "pestilent" New Testament upon which they could lay their hands. Bishop Tunstall went so far as to commission a London merchant, named Packington, who traded to Antwerp, to buy up all the copies he could find in that city.

Said Augustine Packington to the Bishop :—

" ' My Lord if it be your pleasure, I can in this matter do more, I dare say, than most of the merchants of England that are here ; for I know the Dutchmen and strangers that have bought them of Tindale, and have them here to sell ; so that if it be your lordship's pleasure to pay for them (for otherwise I cannot come by them but I must disburse money for them), I will then assure you to have every book of them that is imprinted and is here unsold.' The Bishop, thinking he had God by the toe, when indeed he had, as after he thought, the Devil by the fist, said, ' Gentle Mr. Packington, do your diligence and get them ; and with all my heart I will pay for them whatsoever they cost you, for the books are erroneous and nought, and I intend surely to destroy them all, and to burn them at St. Paul's Cross.' Augustine Packington came to William Tindale, and said, ' William, I know

thou art a poor man, and hast a heap of New Testaments and books by thee, for the which thou hast both endangered thy friends and beggared thyself ; and I have now gotten thee a merchant which with ready money shall despatch thee of all that thou hast, if you think it so profitable for yourself.' 'Who is the merchant ?' said Tindale. 'The Bishop of London,' said Packington. 'Oh, that is because he will burn them,' said Tindale. 'Yea, marry,' quoth Packington. 'I am the gladder,' said Tindale, 'for these two benefits shall come thereof : I shall get money to bring myself out of debt, and the whole world will cry out against the burning of God's Word, and the overplus of the money that shall remain to me shall make me more studious to correct the said New Testament, and so newly to imprint the same once again, and I trust the second will much better like you than ever did the first.' And so, forward went the bargain ; the Bishop had the books ; Packington had the thanks ; and Tindale had the money.

"After that Tindale corrected the same New Testaments again, and caused them to be newly imprinted, so that they came thick and threefold into England. When the Bishop perceived that, he sent for Packington, and said to him, 'How cometh this, that there are so many New Testaments abroad ? You promised me that you would buy them all.' Then answered Packington, 'Surely I bought all that were to be had : but I perceive they have printed more since. I see it will never be better so long as they have letters and stamps [for printing with] : wherefore you were best to buy the stamps too, and so you shall be sure,' at which answer the Bishop smiled, and so the matter ended."

Archbishop Wareham was also very active in buying up, through his agents abroad, all the New Testaments he could possibly obtain. Having completed the purchases, and apparently believing that he had bought up the whole of the *three* editions by this time in existence, the Archbishop issued, on the 26th May, 1527, a circular letter to his suffragan bishops, soliciting contributions towards these expenses, which we find, from a reply from the blind Bishop of Norwich (Nix), amounted to £997, according to our present day reckoning.

Before we follow Tindale in his wanderings on the Continent, after the publication of his New Testament, it will be well for us to pause and consider the merits of that which constitutes the translator's claim to the gratitude of the English-speaking people, for the issue of this Testament was an event of the utmost importance in the history of our country.

In the first place, however, let us enquire as to the extent of Tindale's dependence, if any, upon other versions. In his statement, or epilogue, which is to be found at the end of the Worms octavo Testament, entitled "To the Reder," Tindale clearly

states : “ I had no man to counterfet neither was holpe with englysshe of eny that had interpreted the same, or soch lyke thīge ī the scripture beforetyme. . . . ”

A careful examination of Tindale's version reveals the fact that he translated direct from the Greek, using as LUTHER'S collateral helps the Vulgate, Erasmus's Greek-Latin INFLUENCE. Testament (1522), and Luther's German New Testament (1522). We have his assurance that he neither visited nor conferred with Luther, but a comparison of Luther's New Testament with that of Tindale shows that our translator was greatly dependent upon Luther's version. The quarto fragment is the more important for the purpose of critical comparison, and we find that of Luther's general introduction Tindale has transferred into his prologue no fewer than sixty lines, or nearly half. Of the 210 marginal references contained in the corresponding portion of Luther's version, and constituting the inner margins, Tindale has adopted 190. These not only stand against exactly the same chapters and verses, and form identically the same groups, but without exception constitute the same inner margin as in Luther. Even more striking evidence of his dependence is obtained by a comparison of Luther's expository notes in the outer margin with those of Tindale, which occupy exactly the same position. Of the 69 glosses which Luther has on Matt. i.-xxii. 12, Tindale transferred into his margin no fewer than 59. The following specimens will illustrate this point :—

Luther.

(schweren) Alles schweren
vnd eyden ist hie verpotten, das
der mensch von yhm selber
thutt, wens aber die lieb, nodt,
nutz des nehisten, odder gottis
ehre foddert, ist es wolthun,
gleych wie auch der zorn ver-
potten ist, vnd doch loblich
wenn er aus liebe vnd zu gottes
ehren, erfoddert wirt.—Matt.

v. 33.

Tindale.

Sweare. All swearynge &
othes which a mā of him silffe
doith, are here forbydē, never
thelesse whē love, neade, thy
neghbures proffyte, or goddes
honoure requyrith hit, then is
hit well done too sweare. like as
wrath forbydden is, & yet is
lawdable whē hit proceadith of
love to honoure god with all.

The Gospell of

* The same.

Here Christe requiri
rith faith/for wheas/
re faith is nothere
is not the coman/
dment fulfilled: Ro.
iq. And all goode
workes after ove/
warde apperaunce
with ove faith ar
syn: contrarie wyse
where faith is/the/
re must the verry
goode werkes solo/
we. Chaste callith
here/doige: too doo
with a pure herte.
Actu. xv. And sou/
che goodnes stodith
fast agaist all win/
des / that is too
sare agaist al the
powrie of hel: for hit
is bilt on the rocke
Christe / 1200: we
faith.

* In wirnes. 29/
ses callith the lawe
a wrynes unto the
people. deut. xxi. for
the lawe accusith
vs/r is a testimoni
agaynst oure syn. ly
ke wyse herebyf the
prestes bare recode
that Christe hadde
censiyd this leyer/r
yet belevedy nor/the
testified they against
themselves.

* wilt
* Faith knoweth
but speake the woorde only/and my seruauit shalbe healed. for
not crousteth i the
faavour and goodnes
of god

Whosoever heareth of me these sayngs/and doth the sa-
me/y wylllycken him vnto a wise man/ whiche bilt his house Luc. vi.
on a rocke: and abundance of rayne descended / and the
fluddys cam/ and the wynddyblewe / and bett vpon that sa-
me house / and it was not over throwen because it was gro-
uated on the rocke. And whosoever heareth of me these sayin-
gs/and doth not the same/shalbe lykened vnto a folyshe man/
whiche bylter his house upon the sonde / and abundance of
rayne descended / and the fluddys cam/and the wynddyble-
we/and bett vpon that house/and it was over throwen/and
great was the fall of it.

And it cam to passe / that when Jesus had ended these sa- Mar. i.
yngs/ the people were astonied at his doctrine. For he taught Lu. iii.
them as one havyng power/and nott as the scribes/

The viii. Chapter.

When Jesus was come do-

Mat. i.
Luc. v.



wine from the mountayne / moche people fo-
lowed him. And lo/there ca a lepre / and wor-
sheped him saynge: master/ isthou wylte/ thou
canst make me cleane. He putt forthe his hond
andrewched him saynge: I wyl/be cleane/ and imediately hys
leprosy was clesed. And Jesus said vnto him. Se thou tell no
man/burgo and shewe thy self to the prestes and offer the gy-
ste/that moses comandide to be offred *in wirnes to them.
When Jesus was entred into capernacum/ there cam vnto
him a certayne Centurion/beschyng him/ and saynge: ma-
ster/miy seruauit lyeth sickle att home of the palsye/ and is gre-
vously payned. And Jesus seyd vnto him: I will come and
cure him. The Centurion answered and sayde: Sir/ I am not

worthi/that thou shuldest come vnder the rose of my house/
but speake the woorde only/and my seruauit shalbe healed. for
y also my selfe am a mā vndre power/and have swdecrs vns-
es of god

Sanct Matthes.

VI.

die wind / vnd stießen an das haus / fiel es doch nicht / den es wort
außern felsen gegründt. Vnnd wer disse meyne rede höret / vnd
thut sic nitt / der ist eynem torichten mann gleych / der seyn haus / auß
den stend bewet / da mi eyn platzrege fiel / vnd kam eyn geweßter / vnd
webeten die winde / vnd stießen an das haus / da fiel es / vnd seyn
fall war gross.

Vnd es begab sich / da ihesus disse lere volendet hatt / entzette
sich das volk rbit seyn lere / denn er prediget gewaltlich / vnd
nitt wie die schriftgelernten.

Das acht Capitel.

Markt. 1.
Lucas. 5.

Oder aber vom berge herab gieng / folgte ihm viel volks
nach / vnd sihe / eyn außziger kam / vnd betet ihn an / vnd
sprach / Herr so du willt / kanstu mich wol regnigen / vnd
ihesus streckt seyn hund auf / rurtyhn an / vnd sprach /
ich wills thun / fer geregnigt / vnd als bald war er von seym außziger
reyh / vnd ihesus sprach zu ihm / sich zu / sage niemand / sonder mir
ganng ihm vnd tzyg dich dem priester / vnd opffere die gabe / die
lidoes befolken hat / zu eynem tzeugnis über sie.

Lucas. 7.

Der aber ihesus einging zu capernacum / tratt eyn hewbätmann
zu ihm der bat ihn vnd sprach / Herr / mein knecht liegt zu haus / vñ
ist gichprächtig / vnd hat grosse quall / ihesus sprach zu ihm / ich
will kommen / vnd ihn gesund machen. Der hewbätmann antwoort vñ
sprach / Herr ich bin nit wert / das du unter myn dach gehist / son/
der hi sprach nur eyn wort / so wirt zu eynem knechte gesund. Denn ich bin
eyn mensch / dat za der vberkeit unterthan / vñ habe unter myr kriegs
knecht / noch wenn ich sage zu eynem / gehet hyn / so gehet er / vnd zum
andern / komhet / so kompt er / vnd zu meyhem knechte / tzyd des / sso
thut ers. Da des ihesu höret / verwundet er sich / vñ sprach zu den /
die ihm nachfolgeten / Werlich / ich sage euch / solchen glaubē heb
ich zu istachel nit funden. Aber ich sage euch / viel werden kommen
vom morgen vnd vom abend / vnd sitzen mit abraham und isaac
vnd jacob / zu hymel reich / Aber die kinder des reichs / werden
auszgestossen yna die außersten finsterniss / da wirt seyn weynen vñ
tzen elappen. Und ihesus sprach zu dem hewbätmann / gehet hyn /
dyr geschehe / wie da gegelebtest hast / vnd seyn knecht wort zu dem
selbigen stand gesund.

Markt. 1.
Lucas. 4.

Vnd ihesus kam ynn Peters haus / riss sche das seyn schwörger
leg vnd hatte das fiber / da gryff er sye hand an / vnd das fiber ver/
ließ sic / vnd sie stand auf / vnd dienete ihn.

Markt. 1.

Am abent aber / brachten sic viel besessener zu ihm / vnd er
treyb die geyster auf / mitt worten / vnd machte alle franken ges/
sunde auf das erfüllt wurd / das da gesagt ist / durch den propheten
isaia / der do spricht / Er hatt uns schwachheit angeschlagen /
vnd unsrer schule hatt er getragen.

Vnd da ihesus

wb ist / müssen red
etw gütte wcre
fischen / das heys
ser Christus (ihu)
ten rettem berge
ihu . Wer glaub
oder trugt das
herrn . Bet. 15 . vnd
solche fromfitz /
sticht vest wder
alle wind / vce vt
alle mächt der hel
len / den sie ut auff
den feliz Christu /
durch den glaso /
benn gebawet .
Gute wecre on
glawoben / sern der
torichten unct /
früden lampen on
die .
(So du willt) der
glaub wortz nu /
vertrüdet aber
auf sonnes grad .

(Über sie) Wo se
net das gesetz / ein
zeugnis vnt das
volk / deu . ; den
zeugnies beschel
diget ins / vnd
ut eynzeug / vber
erster fund / alzo
bie / ou prieser so
sic zeugen / Über
sus habt disen ge
trüger / vnd gla
ben doch rich /
zeugen wödet si
ch selb .

(wo ich sage)
des ist . Sind mey
ne wort so mechs
tig / wie viel mechs
tiger sind den des
ne wort :

(von morgen et .)
das ist / die herde
werden zu gnom
men / darumb das
sie glawoben wort
den / die woen vnd
woret herlegen vber
woffen . Bo . 9 .

Luther.

(nicht widder streben) das ist, niemant soll sich selv rechen noch rach suchen, auch fur gericht, auch nicht rach begerē. Aber die vbirkeyt des schwerds sol solchs thun, vonn yhr selbs odder durch den nehisten aus lieb ermanet vnnd ersucht.— Matt. v. 39.

(seyn eygen vbel) das ist tegliche arbeytt, vnnd will, es sey genug das wir teglich arbeyten, sollen nicht weytter sorgen.— Matt. vi. 34.

Sew sind ; die ersoffen ynn fleyschlichem lust, das wort nicht achten.—Matt. vii. 6.

Tindale.

No man shuld avenge hym silfe, or seke wreeke, no nott by the lawe : butt the ruler which hath the swarde shuld do such thynges of hym silfe, or when the negbures off love warne hym, and requyre hym.

Trouble, is the dayly laboure. he wil hit be ynough that we laboure dayly wyth oute forther care.

Swyne, are they which are drowned in fleshly luste & despise the worde.

This appropriation by Tindale of Luther's introduction, inner marginal references, and outer marginal glosses, as well as of Luther's division of the text into paragraphs, and the very arrangement and appearance of the quarto Testament, render it a miniature edition of the German prototype, and would appear to justify the assertion of some of Tindale's contemporaries that he reproduced in English Luther's German Testament.

Turning again to the work of our own countryman, we find that the English Bible, with which we are so familiar, is in its form and substance the work of TINDALE'S INFLUENCE. other man has left the impress of his individuality and scholarship upon it. Neither did the scholars of King James's day, who were responsible for the Authorised Version, nor the Revisers of 1881, produce a new translation. Indeed, the many revisions undertaken since Tindale's day have been built one and all upon his version, which was taken and simply compared with the Greek and Hebrew texts.

There can be no better testimony to the value of Tindale's work, than that provided by the revisers of 1881, who admitted

that the new version was still to all intents and purposes Tindale's work, and that eighty per centum of the words in the Revised New Testament stand as they stood in Tindale's revised version of 1534, for they could not find in the English tongue more felicitous phrases than those employed by our translator.

Considered as a literary undertaking Tindale's work marks an epoch in the literary history of our country. As a master of English prose Tindale stands unrivalled. We often speak of what Shakespeare did for our language, forgetting that nearly a century before his day, at a time when our language was still unformed, when as yet it had not been made the vehicle of any important literary undertaking, Tindale proved to the world that it was possible to express the highest truths in the clearest manner with simplicity, and with grace, thus exercising a permanent influence of the most beneficial kind on the literary taste of the English-speaking people. That is what made the appeal immediate and widespread in Tindale's day, and that is what must keep it fresh and searching while the English tongue is spoken among men.

Of the purity of Tindale's motive we have ample evidence in the fact that the New Testament was issued without the translator's name. It was not intended to secure his fame. He had not laboured for money or for applause, but, to quote his own words in the preface to "The Parable of the Wicked Mammon," was content patiently to abide the reward of the last day.

After the completion of the New Testament Tindale settled down to study Hebrew, in order to qualify himself to deal with the books of the Old Testament as he had done with those of the New. Hebrew was not studied at Oxford at the beginning of the sixteenth century, and Robert Wakefield, the first Hebrew Professor at Cambridge, only commenced his lectures in 1524, the year Tindale quitted England. Many Jews were to be found in most of the old German towns, so that he would experience no difficulty in obtaining the necessary instruction.

In 1527 Tindale found it necessary to change his place of residence, possibly on account of Wolsey's vigorous efforts to get him into his power, removing from Worms to Marburg in Hesse-Cassel, where he spent the greater part of the four years following, leaving Marburg for

TINDALE'S
MANIFESTO.

Antwerp in 1531. Here, in the intervals of study, and work upon the Old Testament, he found time to issue the three principal doctrinal and controversial works which constitute his manifesto.

The first to be published (in 1528) was "The Parable of the Wicked Mammon": an exposition of the parable of the unjust steward, in which the writer makes an attack on the so-called spirituality, which had taken away the key of knowledge, and had beggared the people. At the same time he expounds the doctrine of justification by faith. This work threw the Church authorities into a state of great rage, it was condemned on all sides, and it was held up to public detestation. (Case 6, No. 7.)

Tindale felt that this manifesto was insufficient, so he followed it up, in the same year, by "The Obedience of a Christian Man, and how Christian rulers ought to govern: wherein also if thou mark diligently thou shalt find eyes to perceive the crafty conveyance of all jugglers." He knew that to teach the views he expressed could only be done at the risk of his life, but he was ready to dare all, if need be to die, in order to expose the infamy of the Church, and to set men free from the debasing teaching of its hideous hypocrisy. It is one thing to see the falseness of error, but it is not always so easy to see the trueness of the truth, and Tindale, not content to overthrow the hypocrisies of Rome, builds up a simple faith in the Gospel. (Case 6, No. 8.)

The bishops were now at their wits' end to know how to arrest the progress of this heresy. Ultimately, it was decided that, as the press had been instrumental in circulating the poison, it should be employed to circulate the antidote. Consequently, Sir Thomas More, at that time Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (he did not become Lord Chancellor of England until the 25th October, 1529) and then indubitably the greatest literary genius in England, was requested to take up the pen and champion the cause of the Church. To that end, he was licensed on the 7th of March, 1528, by Bishop Tunstall, to have and to read Lutheran books, in order that he might confute them: "For as muche, as you, dearly beloved brother, can playe the Demosthenes, both in this our Englyshe tongue and also in the Latin." More immediately set to work,

and before the end of the year he had published his "Dyalogue," the first instalment of his long controversy, in which he attacked not only Tindale, but Barnes, Frith, and Sir John Some. Here he declares that whosoever calleth the new translations the New Testament calleth it by a wrong name, except they call it Tindale's Testament, or Luther's Testament. (Case 6, No. 10.)

This literary combat between Tindale and More lasted for five years, but in the end Tindale won, for, as More himself confessed, if brevity is the soul of wit it is also the essence of retort, and a confutation ten times the length of the work it is intended to demolish is a failure.

In 1529, Tindale, having completed his translation of Deuteronomy, was desirous of getting it printed. He took ship for Hamburg, but was shipwrecked on the coast of Holland, losing everything, and escaping only with his life. Finding another ship he proceeded to Hamburg in order to repair his loss. Having completed his business he proceeded to Antwerp.

TINDALE'S
PENTA-
TEUCH.

It was in 1530-1531 that the Pentateuch was printed. The colophon of the Book of Genesis reads : "Emprented at Marlbورow [or Marburg] in the lande of Hesse, by me Hans Luft, the yere of our Lorde, M.CCCCC.XXX the XVII. dayes of Januarii." Hans Luft is only associated with Marburg in Tindale's books. His place of printing was Wittenberg, where he printed so many of Luther's publications, and we have no evidence that he ever possessed a press at Marburg. Recent investigations by M. E. Kronenberg¹ have resulted in the unmasking of the printer who lurked behind the fictitious imprint, and who is now definitely identified as Johan Hoochstraten of Antwerp. A number of other books, including Tindale's "Parable of the Wicked Mammon," and "The Obedience of a Christian Man," were issued with this same fictitious imprint, beginning in 1528, and ending with "The Practice of Prelates" in the same year as the Pentateuch, 1530. The printing of the Pentateuch seems to have been somewhat troubled. Only two of the five books,

¹ Kronenberg (M. E.), "De Geheimzinnige Drukkers Adam Anonymus te Bazel." 's-Gravenhage, 1919.

XXXV.Chapter.

apō his face. But whē he went before the Lor de to speak with him, he toke the couerige of vntill he came out. And he came out and spa ke vnto the childern of Israel that which he The Pope
speakest that
whiche he is
wante he is
not comman
ded. was commaunded. And the childern of Israel sawe the face of Moses, that the skynne of his face shone with beames: but Moses put a co uerynge vpon his face, vntill he went in, to comen with him.

The xxxv.Chapter.

And Moses gathered all the compayne of the childern of Israel together, and sayde vnto them: these are the thinges whiche the Lorde hath commaunded to doo: Sixe dayes ye shall worke, but the seuenth daye shal be vnto you the holy Sabbath of the Lordes rest: so that whosoeuer doth any worke there in, shall dye. Moreouer ye shall kyndle no fyre thorow out all youre habitacyons apō the Sabbath daye.

And Moses spake vnto all the multitude of the childern of Israel sainge: this is the thin ge whiche the Lorde cōmaūded saynge: Geue frō amōge you an heueoffringe, vnto the Lor de. All thatt are willynge in their hartes, shall bryngcheueoffringes vnto the Lorde: golde, syluer, brasse: Iacynete, scarlet, purpull, bysse ad gootes hare: rams skynnes red and taxus skyn nes and

The newe Testament / dylygently corrected and compared with the Greke by Willm Tindale: and fynelshed in the yere of oure Lorde God. A. M. D. C. xxxij. in the moneth of Nouember.

14.—TITLE-PAGE OF TINDALE'S REVISED "NEW TESTAMENT,"

1534

Genesis and Numbers, are in the so-called "Marburg" type, the other three being in Roman, but they all have the same woodcut frame to their title-pages. There can be little doubt that the use of this fictitious imprint was to conceal the real place of printing from Tindale's enemies. (Case 6, No. 3.)

In 1530 Tindale's pen was again busy framing his final and most unsparing indictment of the Roman hierarchy : "The Practice of Prelates," to which allusion has just been made. In "The Obedience of a Christian Man" Tindale laid down rules of absolute submission to the temporal sovereign, and gave pleasure to the King ; but this volume excited the fury of Henry, since, in it, Tindale had the temerity to denounce the King's divorce proceedings. (Case 6, No. 9.) In 1531 he also completed his translation of the Book of Jonah, which was probably printed at Antwerp.

Feeling that his security was now very precarious Tindale quitted the Low Countries, and for many months he wandered up and down Germany like a fugitive, hoping in that way to baffle the ingenuity of his pursuers.

Ultimately, he determined to settle down in Antwerp, there quietly to watch the progress of events in his native land. Here he returned with all his energy to his great work of translation. In 1534 he reissued the Pentateuch. But the year is specially memorable for the publication of Tindale's revised translation of the New Testament, which was "Imprinted at Antwerp by Marten Emperowr." This revision had been made possible by the money furnished by Cuthbert Tunstall, Bishop of London, and the first burner of the New Testament, for the copies of the first edition procured for him by Packington. (Case 6, No. 4.)

TINDALE'S
REVISED NEW
TESTAMENT.

This was the revised text, which formed the basis of all the subsequent revisions down to and including the Revision of 1881, the title of which runs thus : "The newe Testament dylygently corrected and compared with the Greke by Willyam Tindale : and fynnesched in the yere of oure Lorde God. A.M.D. & xxxiiii. in the moneth of Nouember." In addition to the New Testament, this volume contained a translation of "the Epistles taken out of

the Old Testament, which are read in the Church after the use of Salisbury upon certain days of the year." These "Epistles" include 78 verses from the Pentateuch; 51 from 1 Kings, Proverbs, and the Song of Solomon; 147 from the Prophetical Books, chiefly from Isaiah; and 43 from the Apocrypha, chiefly from Ecclesiasticus. It also contained a prologue to the Epistle to the Romans, extending to thirty-four pages, which was written in 1526, after the issue of the first edition, and was printed and published anonymously under the title: "A compendious introduccion, prolege or preface vn to the pistle off Paul to the Romayns," of which the only surviving copy is preserved in the Bodleian Library, at Oxford.

Bishop Westcott tells us of one copy of this 1534 revision which is of touching interest. Among the men who had suffered for aiding in the circulation of the earlier editions of the Testament was a merchant adventurer of Antwerp, named Harman (p. 32), who seems to have applied to Queen Anne Boleyn for redress. The Queen listened to the plea which was urged in his favour, and by her intervention he was restored to the freedom and privileges of which he had been deprived. Tindale could not fail to hear of her good offices, and he acknowledged them by a royal gift. He was engaged at the time in superintending the printing of his revised New Testament, and of this he caused one copy to be struck off on vellum and beautifully illuminated. No preface, or dedication, or name mars the simple integrity of the copy. Only on the gilded edges, in faded red letters, runs the simple title: "Anne Regina Angliæ." The copy is now preserved in the British Museum, having been bequeathed to it in 1799.

In the same year (1534) George Joye, a scholar and fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, who had fled beyond seas to Strassburg in 1527 to escape persecution, secretly undertook, perhaps at the instigation of the printers, a revision of Tindale's version, correcting it by the help of the Vulgate. Many of these alterations gave great offence to Tindale, since they betray great weakness of judgment, and frequently depart from the meaning of the original Greek. This so-called revision of Joye was published three months before that of Tindale, which appeared in the

month of November. When this dishonest and dishonourable project of Joye was brought to the knowledge of Tindale, he was moved to write the second address, which appears in his edition : "Willyam Tindale, yet once more to the christen reader," in which he defends his own translation against the pretended corrections of Joye. There is little doubt that the first title with his name inserted in full, and the statement that it had been diligently compared with the Greek, was owing to the same cause.

The work of revision and translation occupied Tindale's attention to the last. In 1535, another revision appeared : " Yet once agayne corrected by Willyam Tindale," which is considered to be the last revised by the translator himself, and forms the basis of the Thomas Matthew's Bible of 1537. Several other editions of this same revision were issued in 1536, but they were probably published independently of Tindale. (Case 6, Nos. 5-6.)

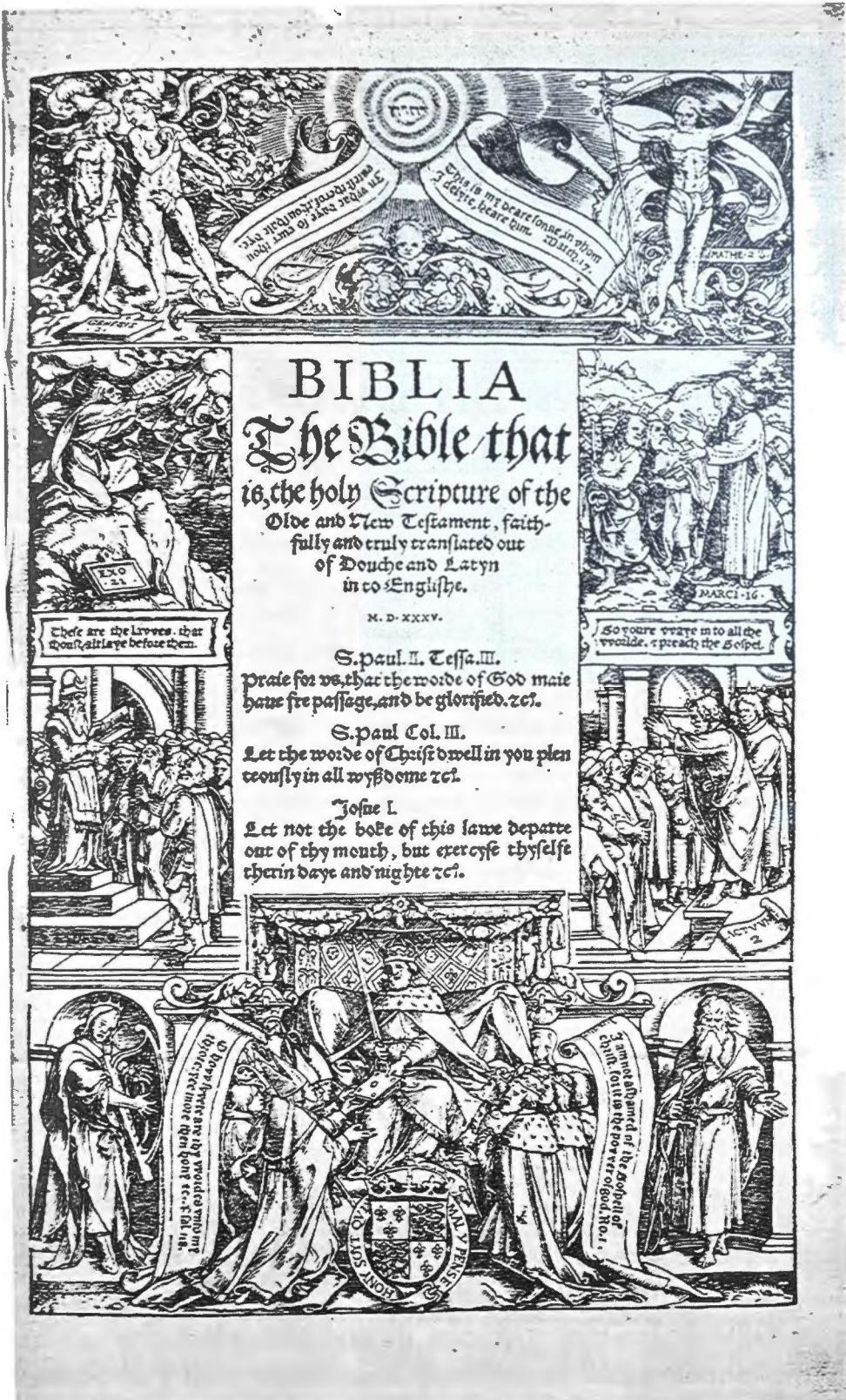
With the publication of the 1534 Testament, Tindale's hopes began to rise after long years of toil and danger. TINDALE AT ANTWERP.
The sky was brightening. For eight years it had been a crime to purchase, sell, or read a copy of the New Testament in the native tongue. Now the persecution had died down, and men might even dare to possess the English Bible and to read it. In some respects England was now a safer place than the Low Countries, where the inquisition was armed with unrestricted authority to seize all suspected persons, and try, torture, confiscate, and execute without any right of appeal, because Lutheranism had continued to make such rapid strides.

Hitherto Tindale had led a charmed life, but a subtle plot was hatched, which could scarcely fail of success. Whilst resident in Antwerp he was the guest of an influential citizen named Thomas Poyntz, a warm and true friend, who was able to shield his visitor from harm, by reason of the privilege which exempted citizens and their guests from being arrested in their houses, except for great crimes. Inside the house Tindale was safe, but strange to say, a man could be seized on the streets, and whipped off to another place, where the Church's laws regarding heresy could be enforced against him.

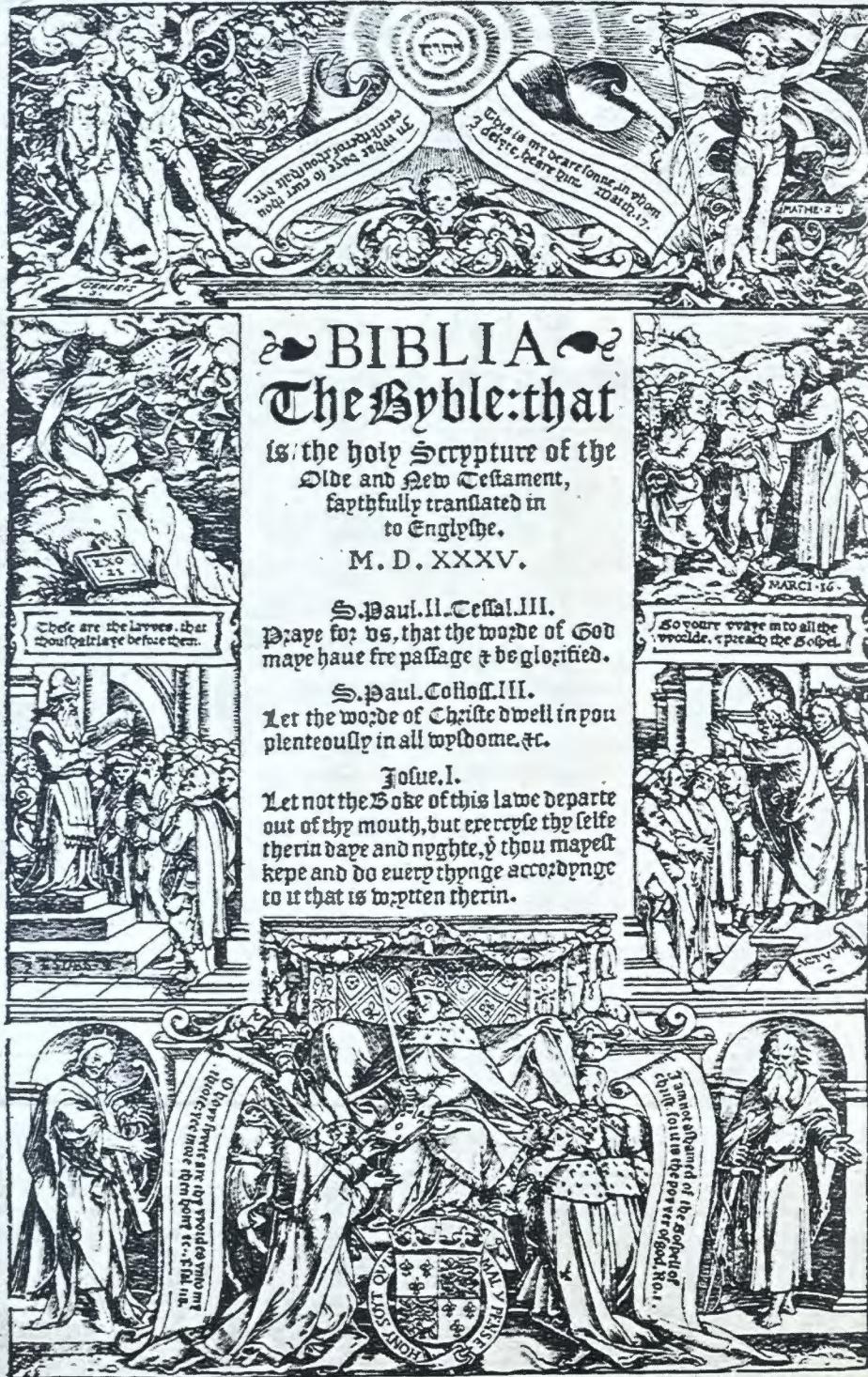
In May, 1535, plans were laid to decoy Tindale away from his refuge, by a plausible scoundrel named Phillips, who played his part so well that Tindale was completely thrown off his guard. He pretended to be a convert to the Protestant cause, and by various means won the confidence of the unsuspecting exile. The plans being ripe, Tindale was invited out to dinner, and as he left the shelter of his friend's roof, he was seized by two officers stationed at either side of the narrow entrance to the house, and was hurried away to Vilvorde, a castle some eighteen miles from Antwerp, which was the principal state prison of the Low Countries, where he was to spend the last sixteen months of his life.

The trial seems to have occupied some five or six months, which is accounted for by the customary slow process TINDALE'S of written attack and defence. Notwithstanding all LAST DAYS. the efforts of his friends in England and in the Low Countries to procure for him protection, he was condemned to death. The verdict had been foreseen. Tindale was in the hands of his life-long enemies, and for him there was only one pathway to escape. Sentence of death was passed on him on the 12th of August, 1536. A respite of two months was granted to the condemned man, during which time he struggled bravely to finish his great work. In a letter recently discovered, written in touching language, during his imprisonment, to the Governor of the fortress of Vilvorde, Tindale begs for warmer clothing, and that he may be allowed the use of his Hebrew books, Bible, grammar, and dictionary. There is good reason for believing that he left behind in manuscript a translation of the Books of the Old Testament, from Joshua to 2 Chronicles inclusive, and that this part of his work was included in the "Thomas Matthew's Bible," of 1537, the name of "Matthew" probably hiding the identity of Tindale's friend, John Rogers.

On Friday, the 6th of October, 1536, Tindale was led forth from his cell, where he had spent so many months, to the place of execution. Being led to the stake, which, as if in derision, was fashioned like a cross, Tindale requested a few minutes for private prayer. The request was granted, and in this last act we have fresh proof of the nobility and unselfishness of his character.



15.—ORIGINAL [ZURICH?] TITLE-PAGE OF "COVERDALE'S BIBLE" OF 1535



16.—SECOND [LONDON?] TITLE-PAGE OF "COVERDALE'S BIBLE" OF 1535

Death had no terrors for him, he thought not of his own sufferings, he was but going home. His warfare accomplished, his labours completed, he but awaited his rest like a brave soldier of Christ.

Raising his eyes to heaven he prayed with all the fervour he knew : "Lord, open the King of England's eyes"—a prayer which was nearer to its answer than the heroic martyr deemed. The faggots were then piled around him, and at a given signal he was first strangled, in accordance with the law, which condemned only Anabaptists to be burned alive, and his body was then burned.

His unrelenting enemies had succeeded in cutting short his life, but his work was beyond their power. Like the seed of the parable, it has grown up into the mightiest of trees. There is scarcely a corner of the globe into which English energy has not penetrated, and wherever the English language is heard there the words in which Tindale gave the Bible to his countrymen are repeated with heart-felt reverence, as the holiest and yet the most familiar of words. These words are the first that the opening intellect and faith of the child receives from the lips of its mother, they are the last that tremble upon the lips of the dying man, as he commends his soul to God.

No voice of scandal has ever been raised against William Tindale. There are no black spots in his life, which it has been necessary for his biographers to whitewash. Truth alone can stand the test of time, and the more the life of Tindale is examined the more is he found to be deserving of the love and veneration of his countrymen.

As the Reformation advanced the demand for a Bible in English was every day becoming louder and more urgent. The whole system of ecclesiastical teaching, worship, and government must be tried and judged by the Scriptures on which it was alleged to be founded, said the reformers. And so in addition to Tindale other men began to turn their attention to the work of translation, of whom one of the most notable was Miles Coverdale, who from 1551 to 1553 was Bishop of Exeter, but was deprived of his see when Mary ascended the throne.

Like Wiclid, Coverdale was a native of Yorkshire, and at an early age espoused the principles of the Reformation. For so doing he found himself in danger, and, like his contemporary, Tindale, he fled beyond the seas, probably to Zurich, where he applied himself to the study and translation of the Scriptures, under the patronage of Thomas Cromwell and Sir Thomas More. He did not, like Tindale, issue the Bible in instalments, but published the whole Bible at once, in 1535, just about a year before Tindale's death, probably from the press of Christopher Froschower of Zurich. (Case 7, Nos. 1-2.)

Unlike Tindale's, this version was translated not from the original tongues, but "out of Douche [i.e. German] and Latyn," which accurately describes the case. Coverdale did not profess that his work was a direct translation from the original Hebrew and Greek texts ; he describes it as a translation of translations. This was the meaning he intended the reader to gather. Hence Coverdale's work has never ranked as the true primary version of the English Bible. That proud position is held by the "Thomas Matthew Bible" of 1537, which enshrined the latest results of the scholarship of William Tindale.

Coverdale was preceded by Tindale in the translation of the New Testament, the Pentateuch, and the book of Jonah, and as far as these parts are concerned his translation was only a revision of Tindale's labours. In the use of ecclesiastical terms Tindale thought it necessary to be very particular. He translated "*πρεσβύτεροι*" as "elders," and not "priests"; "*μετάνοια*" as "repentance," not "penance"; "*ἐκκλησία*" as "congregation," not "church." But Coverdale was not so rigid.

Coverdale's translation was dedicated to Henry VIII, as "defendour of the fayth and under God the chefe and supreme heade of the Church of Englond." To the dedication was prefixed a profuse invocation of Divine blessings on the King and on his "dearest just wyfe, and most vertuous Prynnesse, Queen Anne." A good deal of diplomacy was, nevertheless, required to procure through the King free course for the new translation, but in the end not only was Coverdale's Bible not seized and burned, but it was allowed to be openly circulated, and in an edition of the same Bible printed in 1537, it is declared on the

The first boke of Mo= Bo. i. ses, called Genesis.



The first Chapter.

3
A. Edd. d.
Ecccl. 12.2
1 Cor. 10.5
Heb. 11.2
Eph. 4.4.c

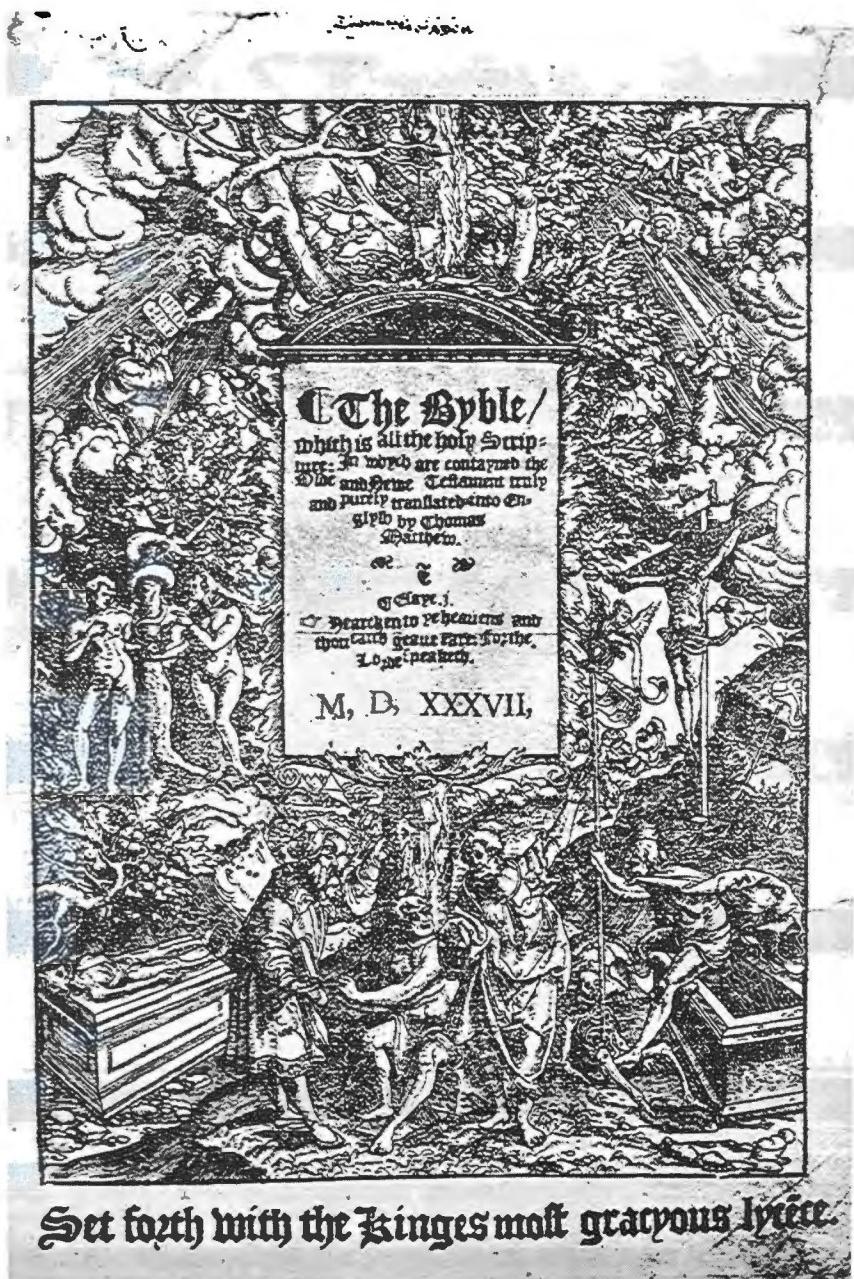


By begynnyng God created he[n]e[n]t earth: and y[er] earth was v[er]y depe, and empie, and darchnes was vpon the depe, and sp[irit]e of God moued vpon the water. And God sayde: let there be light; and there was light. And God sawe the light that it was good. Then God deuyded y[er] light from the darchnes, and called the light, Daye: and the darchnes, N[ot]ight. Then of the evenyng and morayng was made the first daye.

And God sayde: let there be a firmament betwene the waters, and let it deuyde y[er] waters a funder. Then God made y[er] firmament, and parted the waters vnder the firmament, from the waters aboue the firmament. And so it came to passe. And God called y[er] firmament, Heuen. Then of the evenyng and morayng was made the seconde daye.

And God sayde: let the waters vnder he[n]t be gathered the selues into one place, y[er] the dryelonde maye appeare. And so it came to passe. And God called y[er] dryelonde, Earth: and the gatheringe together of waters calle he[n]t See. And God sawe y[er] it was good.

And God sayde: let y[er] earth bringe forth grene grasse and herbe, that beareth sede: and smale full trees, that maye bear frute, every one after his kynde, hauyng their ewene sede in hem selues vpon the earth. And so it came to passe. And the earth brought forth grene grasse and herbe, y[er] beareth sede every one after his kynde, and trees bearinge frute, and



18.—TITLE-PAGE OF "MATTHEW'S BIBLE," 1537

title-page to be "set forth with the Kynges moost gracious licence." (Case 7, No. 4.)

Coverdale was in hearty accord with Tindale and others in the defiance of the Romanist conservative forces, then all-powerful in the church life of England. But he was at heart a man of peace, and he was willing to go great lengths to assure the timid, and to draw over the wavering. For these good ends he prepared an edition of the New Testament, giving, side by side with the Latin Vulgate text of that day a very literal English version, which differs from his former translation, in order that readers might be able to compare the Latin and English versions. (Case 7, Nos. 5-7.)

In 1537 there appeared another notable version of the Bible in English. The name of the translator was given on MATTHEW'S BIBLE. the title-page as Thomas Matthew, but this proved to be a name assumed by John Rogers, who was the person responsible for the work. (Case 6, No. 14.)

John Rogers was Tindale's literary executor. The Bible he published was not a new translation, but a well-edited version of other men's translations. It comprised substantially a reprint of Tindale's Testament and Pentateuch, a first issue of the other translations left behind in manuscript by Tindale, and a reprint of Coverdale's version of the books from Ezra to Malachi.

Strange to say, the King's licence was extended to this Bible, although the most cursory inspection must have revealed Tindale's connection with the book. This protection was obtained at the suit of Archbishop Cranmer, who, in 1534, had tried in vain to induce the Bishops to undertake a translation of the Bible. Having failed in his endeavour, the Archbishop, in a letter to Thomas Cromwell, Chief Secretary of State, dated 4th August, 1537, begs him to read the book, a copy of which he sends with the letter, assuring him that, so far as he has examined the translation, it is more to his liking than any translation heretofore made. He prays Cromwell to exhibit the book to the King, and to obtain from him a "licence that the same may be sold, and redde of every person, withoute danger of any acte, proclamacion, or ordinaunce heretofore graunted to the contrary, untill such tyme

that we, the Bisshops, shall set forth a better translacion, which I thinke will not be till a day after Domes day."

As a translation Matthew's Bible was of greater merit than Coverdale's, but it was accompanied by prologues and notes of the editor's own, which were too fierce and free to be palatable to all sorts of people. Like Tindale, Matthew or Rogers was a zealous and extreme reformer. He was the first martyr to be burned at Smithfield during the reign of Queen Mary, in her persecution of the Protestants in 1555.

Neither of the two bibles of Coverdale and Matthew was altogether satisfactory. The inaccuracy of Coverdale's version caused it to lose ground, and the boldness of Matthew's notes was unpalatable. It was necessary therefore to meet a widely felt want by revising all the existing translations.

Richard Taverner, an excellent Greek scholar, was induced to undertake the work. Such little time was given him for the work that he did little more than to correct the English of Matthew's Bible by the Vulgate, and to suppress many of its notes. He explains in his dedication how absurd it was for any one to suppose that a faultless translation of the Bible could be made in a year's time by any single man.

The Bible was published in London in 1539, was allowed to be publicly read in the churches, but exercised very little influence on subsequent versions. (Case 8, No. 3.)

In the course of time the true history of Matthew's Bible came to be known, and the King's advisers realised the very unpleasant fact, that in procuring for it a royal licence they had befooled the King. With the deliberate advice of the fathers of the spirituality his Majesty had ordered Tindale's translations to be burned as replete with error, and he had employed an agent to search for Tindale and apprehend him as a broacher of heresies and sedition. And yet the King had been persuaded, unawares, to grant a licence for the circulation of what was practically Tindale's translation. It was extremely awkward for Henry's advisers. When Cromwell and Cranmer discovered the real import of their act, they set to work as quickly and as quietly as possible to minimise the effects of the licence.

Cromwell resolved to supersede Matthew's Bible by a new version, the basis of which should be Matthew's THE GREAT version shorn of its polemical annotations. The BIBLE. execution of this project was entrusted to Coverdale, who had given proof of his moderation and courtesy in the treatment of ecclesiastical questions.

It was resolved that the printing should be executed in Paris, where it would be less subject to interference than in England, so Coverdale, accompanied by his printer Richard Grafton, proceeded to Paris. The inquisitor-general hearing of the project issued an order to stop the work and seize whatever had been printed. Coverdale and Grafton took flight, leaving behind all their property, which was confiscated. The printed sheets were purchased by a smart haberdasher for trade purposes, but were consigned to England in four large vats. Coverdale and Grafton were soon at the work again in London, and in April, 1539, the new version was in the hands of the public. (Case 8, No. 1.)

On account of its large dimensions this new version received the designation of the "Great Bible." In consequence of a long prologue by Cranmer that was prefixed to the edition issued in the following year (Case 8, No. 2) and to all subsequent editions, the version came to be called "Cranmer's Bible."

In order that the "Great Bible" might achieve the object for which its publication was designed, of superseding all former licensed versions, a royal order was issued that every clergyman in England should provide on this side the feast next coming "one boke of the whole Bible of the largest volume in Englysshe, and have the same sett up in summe convenient place within the churche that he has cure of, wherat his parishioners may most commodiously resort to the same and rede yt." This order was not universally respected by the clergy; but it was partially obeyed, and in a large number of churches Bibles were set up for free and public reading.

It is of interest to notice that part of the "Great Bible" still lives in the "Book of Common Prayer," in the form of the Psalter, which is the version of the Psalms given there. Furthermore, it is from the same source that are taken the sentences and "comfortable words" of Scripture repeated in the office of the Holy Communion.

Considering the hand which Coverdale had in the preparation of the "Great Bible" it might reasonably have been expected that the New Testament portion would bear the impress of Coverdale's version of 1535. But it does not : it follows Tindale's version of 1534 much more closely than Coverdale's.

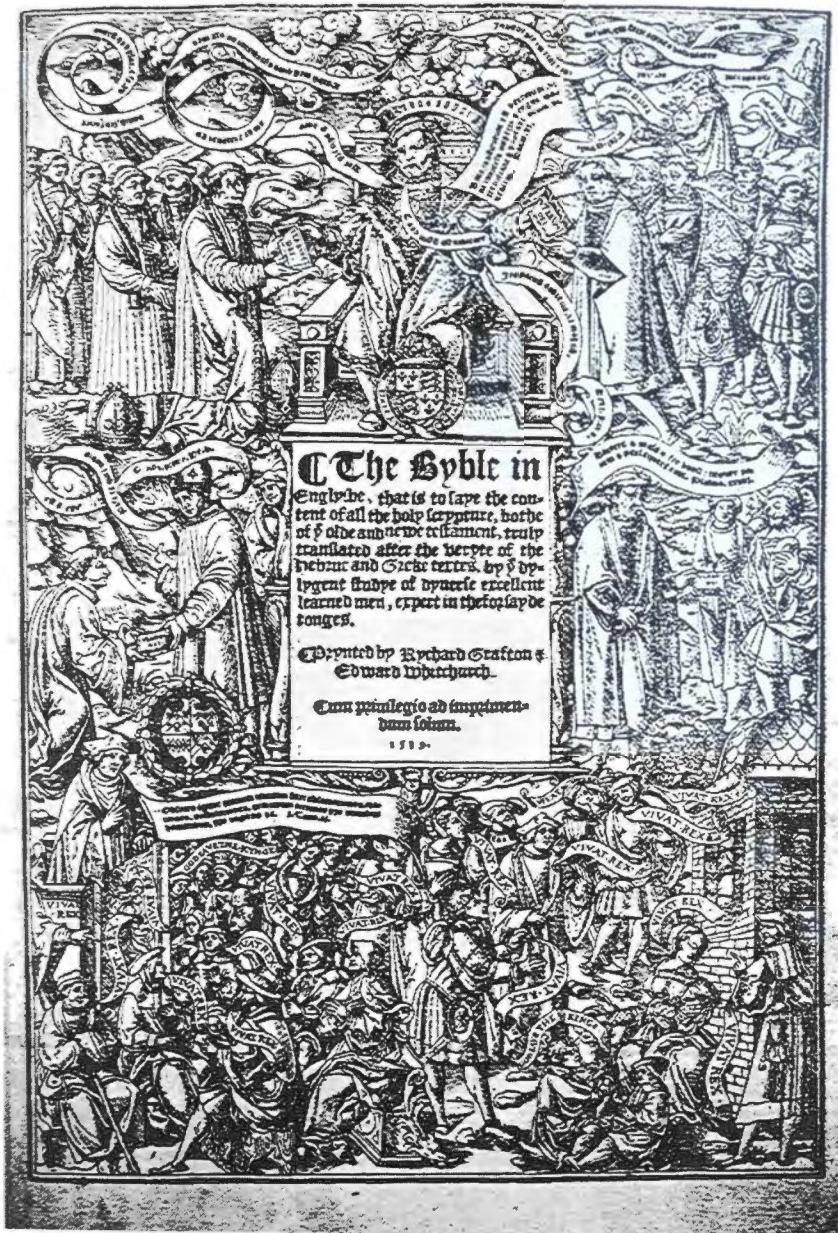
For eighteen years after the publication of the "Great Bible" very little was done in the way of perfecting the English version of the Scriptures.

From 1553 to 1558 England was under the rule of Queen Mary, during whose reign the circulation of the Bible in the vulgar tongue was not encouraged. The public reading of Scripture was prohibited by a proclamation dated 18th August, 1553 ; by another proclamation in June, 1555, the importation of such books as the works of Tindale, Coverdale, and Cranmer was prohibited, and in 1558 the delivery of wicked and seditious writings of the reformers was required under penalty of death. A relentless persecution was also directed against all who endeavoured to promote the reformers' opinions, with the result that nearly three hundred persons were burned at the stake, and far more were imprisoned or otherwise punished.

It is computed that as many as 800 reformers sought shelter on the Continent. Geneva became the favourite place of resort of the refugees, for the reason that Protestantism was there supreme. The ruling spirit of the city was John Calvin, and the man at his right hand was Theodore Beza. This attracted so many Englishmen that they formed by themselves a considerable congregation. In 1556-57 they had John Knox for their pastor. He was succeeded in 1557 by another distinguished exile, William Whittingham, who married a sister of Calvin's wife.

Whittingham was a scholarly man and devoted himself to the work of perfecting the English version of the Scriptures. The first instalment of his labours was a revised translation of the New Testament, with "most profitable annotations of all harde places," which was published in Geneva by Conrad Badius in 1557 (Case 8, No. 6). To this translation was prefixed an epistle by Calvin, which

THE
GENEVAN
TESTAMENT.



19.—TITLE-PAGE OF THE "GREAT BIBLE," 1539

helped to introduce the book to the favourable notice of Protestants and the Bible-reading section of the English people.

In this volume the English New Testament was broken up into verses for the first time. Also for the first time the actual text was distinguished, by a difference of type, from the supplemental words that had been inserted in order to express the full sense of the original, and the simpler roman type was employed in place of the black-letter type of the earlier Bibles and Testaments.

Immediately after the issue of Whittingham's Testament the Genevan exiles entered upon a revision of the whole THE
GENEVAN
BIBLE. Bible. It is impossible to say how many had a hand in it. Coverdale was residing at Geneva for a time and may have assisted, whilst a similar claim may be advanced in favour of John Knox, but it is generally admitted that the chief credit of the work belongs to Whittingham, who was assisted by Thomas Sampson and Anthony Gilby. For the space of two years and more these three worthy men toiled at their task, and in 1560 they gave to the world the fruit of their labours in the book which is now known as the "Genevan Bible." (Case 8, No. 7.)

This New Testament portion was not merely a reprint of Whittingham's Testament of 1557, but a new revision.

In the prefatory epistle it is explained that the revision was undertaken not merely to provide a reformed text of the Bible, but in order to furnish the English people with both a cheaper and a better annotated Bible than they had ever had. The "Great Bible," which from 1540-60 was most in request, was both costly and unwieldy. It was well adapted for public reading, but it was inconvenient for private use, and its cost was a hindrance to its circulation. The Genevan scholars resolved that their version should be issued in a cheap and handy form, and that it should be furnished with such marginal notes as the average man in those days required for the elucidation of Scripture.

The "Genevan Bible" at once became popular, although it was never formally recognised by authority. It was reckoned a

better translation than any of its predecessors. It embodied the latest result of Biblical criticism. It was portable and moderate in price. It was conveniently cut up into verses. Its origin was associated with romance. It was the people's Bible, and for upwards of fifty years it was the version in demand. Between 1560 and 1640 not less than 150 editions were printed.

To Scotsmen the "Genevan Bible" was of special interest. It was the Bible of Knox and Melville, it was read in all places of worship in Scotland between 1560 and 1610. The first edition of the English Bible actually printed in Scotland was of the "Genevan Version." It was printed by Thomas Bassandyne and Edward Arbuthnet of Edinburgh between the years 1576 and 1579, with the licence of the Privy Council, and the authority of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, by whose order every parish in Scotland subscribed a fixed amount before the work was undertaken. (Case 8, No. 8.)

The popularity of the "Genevan Version" was disquieting to the authorities of the Church of England. They had the mortification of seeing an unauthorised version of the Scriptures preferred to the one ordered to be read in the churches, and of hearing it extolled by scholars and divines. In the annotations, with which the margins bristled, the constitution of their church was held up to scorn, and they felt it was expedient to provide the English people with a new version, which from its intrinsic excellence might supplant in the affections of the people the popular but obnoxious "Genevan Version".

Consequently, in 1564, it was resolved that a revised version of the Bible, which should be "de facto" the THE BISHOPS' BIBLE. Church's own version, should with all convenient speed be issued to the people, and the Archbishop of Canterbury (Matthew Parker) put himself at the head of the movement.

In the carrying out of his project Parker adopted the principle of divided labour. He "sorted out" the whole Bible into "parcels," and distributed these for examination and revision among qualified divines, furnishing each contributor with a copy of instructions regarding the spirit and method in which the work was to be conducted. These instructions were of a most

praiseworthy character. The labours of previous translators were to be respected ; alterations were not to be made in a spirit of wantonness. The task of reviewing the corrections and amendments of the several revisers Parker reserved for himself.

Four years were spent upon this revision, and in 1568 the new version was published. Most of those who took part in the revision were members of the episcopal bench, and so the sobriquet "The Bishops' Bible," by which it is still known, was given to it. Everything was done to make it attractive. It was issued in magnificent style, profusely illustrated with woodcuts, and embellished, in questionable taste, with copper-plate portraits of Queen Elizabeth, the Earl of Leicester, and Lord Burleigh. (Case 9, No. 1.)

On the title-page of some of the editions it is stated "Cum gratia et privilegio" ; this was not, however, the authority of the Crown, but of the Church.

It was reprinted in small quarto, and somewhat revised in 1569. In 1572 the second folio edition appeared, in which the New Testament had undergone still further revision. A remarkable feature of this edition is its two-version Psalter, which exhibits, printed side by side, "The translation vsed in common prayer," and "The translation after the Hebrewes" (Case 9, No. 2). In all succeeding editions, except the folio of 1585, the "Prayer Book" version of the Psalter is substituted for the new version of 1568.

In 1571 an order was issued by Convocation that "every archbishop and bishop should have at his house a copy of the holy Bible of the largest volume, as lately published at London, and that it should be placed in the hall or large dining-room, that it might be useful to their servants or to strangers." The cost of a copy was about equivalent to £16 of our money. But this order met with the general fate of ecclesiastical edicts.

The "Bishops' Version" never became popular with either laity or clergy, nor did it command the respect of scholars. It was avowedly nothing more than a revision of the "Great Bible," but it shows that good use was made of the "Genevan Version," for some of the best and raciest of the notes in the "Bishops' Version" are taken from it verbatim, without acknowledgment.

The Church of Rome had always bitterly opposed any attempt to circulate the Bible in the language of the people, and licence to read the Scriptures, even when truly and catholicly translated, was but sparingly granted.

RHEIMS TESTAMENT.
In spite, however, of the denunciations uttered by the Roman Catholic priests against, what they were pleased to term, the incorrect and untruthful translations which were in circulation, the Bible continued to be read by increasing numbers of people. Indeed, the attempts to suppress it created a prejudice against the Roman Catholic Church ; and, as time wore on, it was felt by many Catholics that something more must be done than the mere denunciation of the corrupt translations in the direction of providing a new version which the Roman Church could warrant to be authentic and genuine.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth there ceased to be a Roman hierarchy in England. The faithful Catholics were scattered abroad, but to their honour be it said, many of them, true to their principles and professions, did in their exile what the Protestant refugees had done before at Geneva. They set themselves the task of translating the Bible, and in 1582 they issued from the press of John Fogny at Rheims an English translation of the New Testament (Case 9, No. 5). The Old Testament was not issued, from lack of means, until 1609-10, when they were able to complete their labours at Douai (Case 9, No. 7). From this circumstances arose the designation "Douay Bible," by which the Roman Catholic version has since been known.

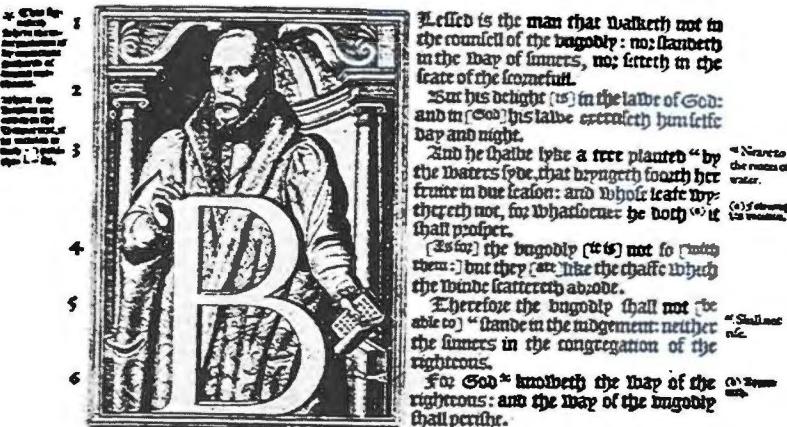
The source from which this version was derived was "the authentical Latin, . . . diligently conferred vwith the Greeke and other editions in diuers languages." The objects for which it was published were "the discouerie of the Corryptions of diuers late translations, and for cleering the Controversies in religion, of these daies."

The work of revision was carried out by a number of scholars, under the direction of Gregory Martin, a man who was reputed to be the best Hebrew and Greek scholar of his college, William Allen, who was afterwards made Cardinal, and Richard Bristow.

Public attention was soon directed to this Rheims Version, and several divines of the English Church undertook to examine

The argument of the first psalm.

⁴ The first place seemed to be a parfice unto the tribule. & it declarereth that the last man
only hath his true felicitie in this world, whose delight is wholly in perceiving the love
of God. 3:3 for the brightnes man, although he liveth for a space to prosper and to florise,
yet his end is very miserable and wretched.



The argument of the 4. psalme

¶ His conspiracies of the Clergy, Jews, Drunks, Sharpers, and Ringers, against
Christ; but altogether false, for God hath manifestly supported him. Lord and
Master over all people, to the better confirmation of his assertions. In estimation to Ringers
and Jugglers to be learned, for to true God, and for to receive his former Christ,
for happy art they that trust in hym.

- 2** *W*hy do the heathen so furiously
rage together: and why do the
people imagine a bayne thing:
2 The brynges of the earth flante up:
and the rulers take canfull together
against god, and against his anointed.
3 Let us breake [for we] their bondes
a funder: and cast away their cordes
from us.
4 He that dwelleth in heauen wylle
laugh them to frone: the Lord wylle
have them in derision.
5 Then wyl he speake unto them in
his mouth: and he wyl affoule them
with feare in his sore displeasure.
6 *Saying*, even I haue anointed
thee my kyng: upon my hote hyd of
Dion.
7 I wyl declare the decree, God layde
unto me: thou art my sonne, this day
I haue begotten thee.
8 Declare of me, and I wyl gane thee
the heathen for thynt iheritauence: and
the iheritauent parties of the earth for
thy possession.
9 Thou shalt bruse them with a rod
of iron: and breake them in peeces like
a potters vessell.
10 Wherefore be you nowise wel aduised O
peoples: be you learned ye [you are]
judges of the earth.
11 Serve ye God in stately: and reioyce ye
with a treweling.
12 Rule ye the sonne lest that he be ar-
guye, and [or] ye perclue [know] the day,
it is thysch de nere to take hande:
blessed are all they that put their
trust in hym.

unto me: thou art my sonne, this day
I haue begotten thee.

Desire of me, and I wyl geue thee
the heathen for thynt inheritance: and
the uttermost parties of the earth so:
thy possession.

Thou shall bruise them with a rod
of iron : and break them in pieces like
a potters vessel.

• therefore be you no[n] bel aduised
ye knynges: be you learned ye [that are]
judges of the earth.

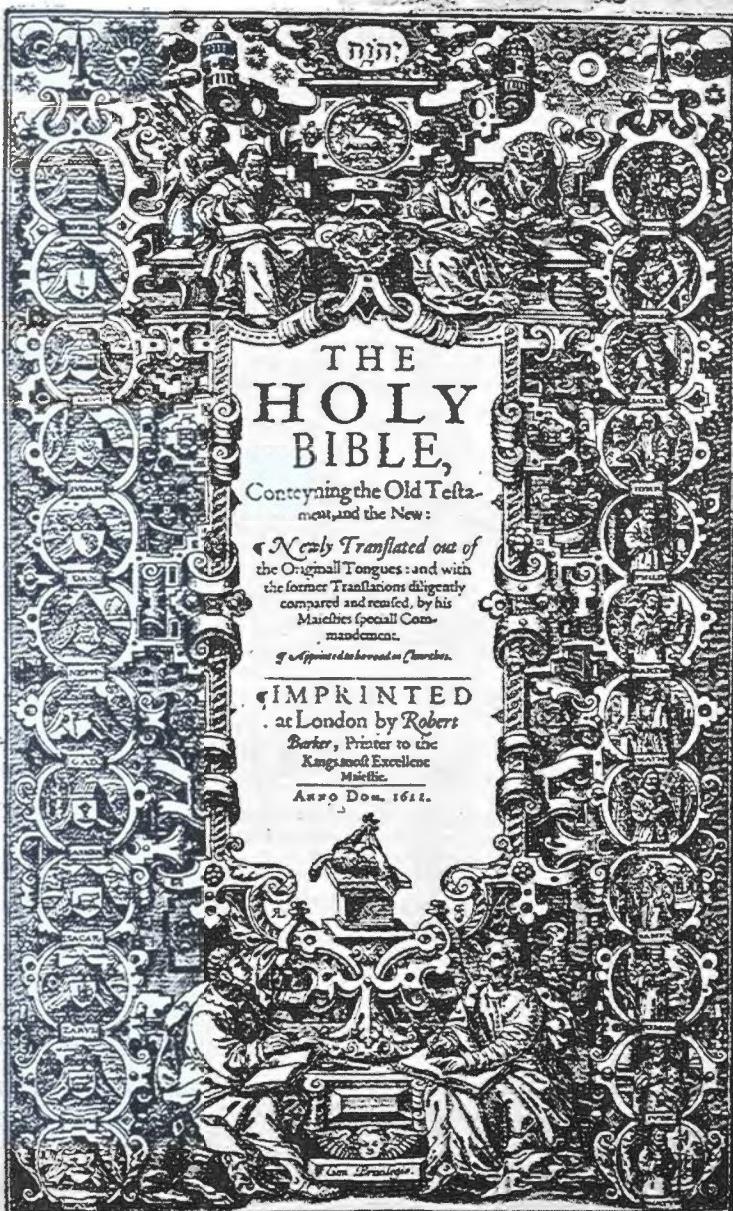
Settir ye God in stace: and reioice ye
With a treowblig.

¶ Bifle ye the forme left that he be assayte,
and [¶] ye perishe [¶] the [¶] may, if his wrath be ueret so tolde knyfe.

blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

2 (1) The

The



22.—TITLE-PAGE OF THE “AUTHORISED VERSION,” 1611

and expose its defects, as a fit reply to the bitter attacks which had been made upon Protestant versions for many years past. Amongst the earliest to take up their pens in refutation of the Rheims accusations were Dr. William Fulke, Master of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, Dr. Thomas Bilson, the poet George Wither, and Dr. Edward Bulkeley. But it was left to Dr. Fulke to produce a complete review of the entire New Testament of Rheims which appeared in 1589. (Case 9, No. 6.)

When James VI. of Scotland succeeded to the throne of England as James I., in the year 1603, there were three notable Protestant versions of the Bible in the popular tongue : the "Great Bible," the "Genevan," and the "Bishops'." The first still retained some of its pristine celebrity, the second had lost none of its prestige with the people, whilst the third represented all the improvement on the former which the learning and piety of the Church of England could effect. But there was a demand for another and better translation than any that had yet been printed.

At that date there were in the Church of England two parties, the Low Church or Puritan party, and the High Church or Ritualistic party. The former complained of certain grievances to which they were subjected, and on the occasion of the King's journey through London they submitted a petition for the redress of their grievances, which had reference, principally, to obnoxious ceremonies that had been made part of the Church's ritual. In response, the King appointed a conference to be held at Hampton Court in January, 1604, at which representatives of both parties were to have an opportunity of stating their views to his Majesty.

The result was not what the Puritans anticipated, but there was one point on which James met their wishes by AUTHORISED VERSION granting the proposal made by Dr. John Rainolds, President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and the Puritan leader at the Conference, that a new translation of the Bible should be undertaken. "I have never yet," said the royal theologian, "seen a Bible well translated into English, and the worst of all . . . is the Genevan." The result was that the King expressed his desire "that some special pains should be

taken . . . for one uniform translation to be done by the best learned men in both universities ; after them to be revised by the bishops and the chief learned of the Church ; from them to be presented to the Privy Council, and lastly to be ratified by his royal authority. Furthermore, the King ordered that the whole Church of the kingdom should be bound by this new translation and none other.

In spite of the half-hearted way in which the matter was taken up by many of the clergy, and in spite of the cynical comments of some of the bishops, the King took the matter in hand and set the work in motion so that its achievement was due to his royal interest and influence. A list of men qualified to be employed in the work was sent in and approved by his Majesty, but it was not until 1607 that the work of revision was actually begun.

The list of translators comprised originally fifty-four names, but only forty-seven persons came forward to take part in the work of revision. The revisers were divided into six companies, and to each company was assigned a separate portion of Scripture. Three companies were set to the Old Testament, two companies to the New Testament, and the sixth company to the Apocrypha. Each of the translators was required to make his own translation, chapter by chapter, of the portion of Scripture assigned to his company. Each company held meetings from time to time, to hear and compare translations, and to agree as to the rendering to be adopted by the company. After an entire book had been gone over in this way, the result was sent the round of the other companies, to be "considered of seriously and judiciously" ; and it was then, with remarks, remitted to the company from which it came. By that company the remarks and criticisms were reviewed, and if not approved, they were referred to a select committee of final revisers.

The execution of the work occupied about three years, and both the length of time employed and the elaborate mode of procedure adopted indicate the pains that were taken to make the translation worthy of its high design. In 1611 the new version was given forth to the public. There seem to have been two impressions of this first edition, probably due to the impossibility of one printing office being able to supply in the time allotted the number of copies required, about 20,000. (Case 10, Nos. 1-2.)

Considering the interest which the King had taken in the matter, it was fitting that his name should be permanently associated with the new translation. It was accordingly dedicated to the King “as the principal mover and author of the work,” and has since been known as “King James’s Bible.”

It is commonly called the “Authorised Version,” but strange to say it was never formally authorised. Indeed, much of its history is involved in obscurity. “Never,” says Dr. Scrivener, “was a great enterprise like the production of our ‘Authorised Version’ carried out with less knowledge handed down to posterity of the labourers, their method, and order of working.” No evidence has yet been produced to show that the version was ever publicly sanctioned by Convocation, or by Parliament, or by the Privy Council, or by the King. It was not even entered at Stationers’ Hall, with the result that it is now impossible to say at what period of the year 1611 the book was actually published.

It won its way, partly by the weight of the King’s name, partly by the personal authority of the prelates and scholars who had been engaged upon it, but principally by its own intrinsic superiority over its rivals. It did not at once supersede all earlier English versions. Long after 1611 the “Genevan Version” continued to be the household Bible of a large portion of the English people, and in some parts of England the “Bishops’ Bible” retained its place in church, but gradually it displaced even the “Genevan Bible” in popular affection, and established itself as the sole recognised version of the Bible in English. From about the middle of the seventeenth century down to the appearance of the “Revised Version” of 1881-85 it reigned without a rival.

Hostile criticism of the new version was soon heard, and along with a daily increasing measure of appreciation, there has, down to the present time, been a constantly swelling murmur of dissatisfaction.

The first serious proposal for a revision was made in 1645, and a bill was actually brought into the Long Parliament, shortly before its dissolution in 1653, to appoint a committee to review and revise the “New Translation” as the “Authorised Version” was called, but the sudden dissolution of the Parliament put an end to the scheme.

From 1653 to 1870 demands continued to be made from time to time by divines and Biblical scholars for a revision of the "King's Version," and many attempts were made to furnish such a revision in whole or in part.

It was not until 1870, however, that steps were taken in earnest to have a thorough revision of the whole <sup>REVISED
VERSION.</sup> Bible instituted. The honour of being the first to take action in this matter belongs to the Convocation of Canterbury. Not only did the proposal emanate from the Convocation of Canterbury, but the work of revision was undertaken by that body. A committee of its own members, eight of the Upper and sixteen of the Lower House, was nominated "to undertake the work of revision (with) . . . liberty to invite the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship to whatever nation or religious body they might belong." This committee separated itself into two companies; one for the revision of the Old, and the other for the revision of the New Testament. To each company were added, by invitation, distinguished scholars from different churches in the United Kingdom. The churches of America also were invited to form a committee of co-operation.

In the month of June, 1870, the revisers commenced their labours. The New Testament was completed in November, 1880, and published on the 17th May, 1881, when a copy was presented to Queen Victoria. The revision of the Old Testament was not completed until the 20th June, 1884, and publication did not take place until the 19th May, 1885. Thus the time devoted to the revision of the New Testament was ten years and a half, and that devoted to the revision of the Old Testament was about fourteen years. The concluding volume of the "Revised Version," consisting of the Apocrypha—the books which were present in the Greek Old Testament, but failed to secure a place in the Hebrew Canon—did not make its appearance until 1895.

The "Revised Version" is, in the strictest sense of the term, a revision. It is based on the "Authorised Version" of 1611, as that was based on the "Bishops' Bible" of 1572, and as the "Bishops' Bible," in its turn, was based on the "Great Bible" of 1539, and the "Great Bible" on the translations of Tindale and Coverdale. (Case 10, Nos. 8-9).

CATALOGUE OF THE EXHIBITION.

CASE 1.

MANUSCRIPTS : HEBREW AND GREEK.

1. SYNAGOGUE ROLL OF THE LAW. 15th cent.

Sefer Torah : Scroll of the Law of Moses in Hebrew, without vowel-points. $28\frac{3}{8}$ in. (720 mm.) high. Written on forty-six goat-skins. 15th cent.

* * Executed in Spain.

The oldest known Hebrew manuscript containing any considerable portion of the Bible is a Pentateuch of the ninth century of the Christian era.

2. SYNAGOGUE ROLL OF THE LAW. 17th cent.

Sefer Torah : Scroll of the Law of Moses in Hebrew, without vowel-points. $9\frac{1}{16}$ in. (230 mm.) high. On vellum. 17th cent.

* * The scroll-handles are surmounted by the Crown of the Law. (See succeeding note.) The metal hand employed as a pointer by the person using the roll is also exhibited.

3. THE MANTLE OF THE LAW.

* * The "Mantle of the Law" is the popular name of the cover for the scroll of the Pentateuch. It is made in the form of a bag so as to fit the scroll when it is rolled up, open at the bottom but closed at the top, except for two openings through which the scroll-handles pass. It is made of expensive material, which must not have been used for any other purpose.

Between the sectional readings of the law in the synagogue the scroll is closed and covered with the mantle, which is usually decorated with an embroidered crown, borne between two lions, alike typical of Judah, and symbolical of the strength and majesty of the law. Two examples are shown in this case : the first of pink silk with richly gilt embroidery bearing the crown between two lions, and the second of white embroidered silk also bearing the crown and two lions.

Similarly the upper ends of the scroll-handles are decorated with a coronet, usually made of gilded silver and adorned with bells, known as the "Crown of the Law," as exemplified by the Hebrew manuscript exhibited beside the mantles of the law.

4. SCROLL OF THE BOOK OF ESTHER. 16th cent.

Megillat Esther : Scroll of the Book of Esther in Hebrew, without vowel-points. 9 $\frac{5}{8}$ in. (245 mm.) high. Written on deer-skin. 16th cent.

* * The Feast of Purim, which is celebrated on the 14th day of the 12th month, has its public service in the Synagogue marked by the reading of the Book of Esther on the eve and morning of the feast. It must not be read on this occasion from an ordinary text of the Old Testament, but from a skin or parchment which is called "Megillat"—the scroll.

5. PAPYRUS ROLL. A.D. 29.

Bilingual Papyrus—Demotic and Greek. 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ × 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. (350 × 292 mm.). A.D. 29.

* * This document of the time of our Lord shows the common writing material, and the form of Greek script in use at the time. Papyrus was employed in Egypt from a very early date as a material for writing, whence its use gradually spread to neighbouring countries. It was prepared from the papyrus plant, which in ancient times grew in abundance beside the Nile, by cutting the pith of the stem into thin longitudinal strips. These were placed side by side, and another layer of strips laid on them at right angles. The layers were then united by means of pressure and moisture, adhesion being assisted probably by the glutinous character of the pith, or by the addition of glue. When dried and polished the sheets were then ready for use. The original strength of the papyrus thus prepared for writing is estimated to have been about the same as that of modern paper. Owing to its want of durability any document liable to much handling could not survive for more than a limited period. On such perishable material the books of the New Testament must have been originally written, so that the disappearance of the autograph copies through constant use, apart from other dangers incidental to their circulation, need not occasion any surprise.

The upper portion of the papyrus exhibited, which relates to the sale of a house in the Faiyûm district of Egypt, is written in the Demotic form of Egyptian writing, whilst the lower part is in the current Greek script, of a character similar to that which is likely to have been used by the writers of the New Testament.

6. MINUSCULE GREEK GOSPELS. 11th cent.

The Four Gospels in Greek. With tables of Eusebian canons, prologues, etc. 8 $\frac{1}{8}$ × 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ in. (205 × 155 mm.). On vellum. Early 11th cent.

* * Written in a neat minuscule hand. With illuminated architectural patterns for the Eusebian canons, half-page decorative patterns at the commencement of each gospel, and full-page miniatures of St. Matthew, St. Mark, and St. John (that of St. Luke is missing). The style of decoration is Byzantine.

The volume is open at the miniature facing the Gospel of St. John, which gives an interesting illustration of the evangelist engaged upon his work, holding in his right hand the pen with which the sacred volume upon his knees is being written. In front of him is a scholar's cabinet, with the key in the hasp-lock, of which this miniature gives probably the earliest known representation. On the desk above the cabinet are displayed the various implements used by the ancient scribe in the exercise of his craft —inkpot, dividers, knife for erasure, etc. A pillar at the back of the desk supports a mirror from which a hanging lamp is suspended.

7. MINUSCULE GREEK GOSPELS. 11th cent.

The Four Gospels in Greek. $9\frac{1}{4} \times 6\frac{11}{16}$ in. (235 × 170 mm.). On vellum. Early 11th cent.

* * * Written in a fine minuscule hand, the first lines of each gospel being in gold. With half-page decorative patterns at the commencement of each gospel and full-page miniatures of Moses and of the four evangelists. The style of decoration is Byzantine.

The miniature representing St. John follows the Greek tradition, which says that he dictated his Gospel to a disciple named Prochorus. In the upper right-hand corner of the picture is a hand coming forth from a cloud to indicate the presence and activity of the Divine Spirit. St. John stands in the centre, with his left hand raised towards that divine manifestation, in order to receive the heavenly inspiration, and his right hand stretched down towards Prochorus, who is seated at the left hand and writing the opening words of the Gospel : “*'Ev ἀρχὴ ἦν ὁ λόγος.*”

8. SAMARITAN PENTATEUCH. A.D. 1211.

The Pentateuch in Samaritan. $10\frac{7}{8} \times 9$ in. (276 × 228 mm.). On vellum. A.D. 1211.

* * * Written in bold majuscule characters for public liturgical use.

The Samaritan recension of the Pentateuch, whilst agreeing essentially with the Masoretic, or traditional, text, differs from it in some important particulars. In some of the more serious cases the Samaritan text is found to be in agreement with the Septuagint, representing, perhaps, a retranslation of the latter version.

CASE 2.

MANUSCRIPTS : GREEK, COPTIC, SYRIAC, LATIN, ETC.

1. FACSIMILE OF THE GREEK "CODEX SINAITICUS." 4th cent.

Codex Sinaiticus Petropolitanus et Friderico-Augustanus Lipsiensis. The Old Testament preserved in the Public Library of Petrograd, in the Library of the Society of Ancient Literature in Petrograd, and in the Library of the University of Leipzig. (The New Testament, The epistle of Barnabas, and The shepherd of Hermas. Preserved in the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg.) Now reproduced in facsimile from photographs by Helen and Kirsopp Lake. With a description and introduction to the history of the codex by Kirsopp Lake.

Oxford, 1911-22. 2 vols. 4to.

* * * This is a facsimile of one of the two oldest and most valuable manuscripts of the Greek Bible. It is practically coeval with the manuscript preserved in the Vatican Library, known as Codex Vaticanus, and exhibits a similar kind of text. There is general agreement as to the date, namely, the middle or second half of the fourth century. The Codex Sinaiticus is designated A and the Codex Vaticanus B, so as to distinguish them from other uncial manuscripts, which are likewise known by distinguishing letters. The importance of the Codex Sinaiticus for purposes of Biblical scholarship will be apparent when it is stated that of the oldest extant manuscripts it is the only one that contains the entire New Testament. In the Vatican manuscript the latter portion of the New Testament, including part of the epistle to the Hebrews, the epistles to Timothy, to Titus, and to Philemon, with the Apocalypse, are wanting. Both of these manuscripts originally contained the complete Greek text of the Old Testament, but, through the accidents of time, many leaves are missing from each.

The Codex Sinaiticus was discovered by Constantine Tischendorf in 1844 when he paid a visit to the monastery of St. Catharine on Mount Sinai. On this occasion he found forty-three leaves in a waste basket, so it is said, and was allowed to have them by the monks. These leaves he took to Leipzig, and published there as the Codex Friderico-Augustanus in 1846, naming the manuscript after the King of Saxony, Frederick Augustus. During this visit he learned that further portions of the manuscript were still in existence in the monastery. He made another journey to the monastery in 1853, but his attempts to obtain access to the remainder of the manuscript were without avail. In 1859 he paid another visit under

the patronage of the Czar of Russia. This time success crowned his efforts. He was shown the rest of the manuscript by the steward of the monastery. After somewhat protracted negotiations Tischendorf was able to acquire it for the Czar. It was taken in consequence to St. Petersburg, and preserved in the Imperial Library, where it has remained until last year, when it passed into the possession of the British Museum. The manuscript as received there consists of 347 leaves, including, fortunately, the whole of the New Testament ; the forty-three leaves from the Old Testament which were taken to Leipzig by Tischendorf still remain there. It is a matter for congratulation to all interested in Biblical study that this great manuscript should have found its home in the place where another celebrated manuscript, Codex Alexandrinus (known as A), written in the fifth century, was already preserved.

It may be worthy of mention that No. 28 of the Greek papyri in the John Rylands Library exhibits the same palæographical peculiarities which are found in the Codex Sinaiticus and the Codex Vaticanus. On account of the rarity of one or two of these forms this particular Egyptian papyrus has been considered to provide evidence of some value that these two manuscripts were both written in Egypt, for which supposition other arguments can be adduced. (This also is exhibited.)

2. SYRIAC (PESHITTA) VERSION OF THE GOSPELS. c. A.D. 550.

The Four Gospels in the Peshitta form of the Syriac Translation.

$11\frac{7}{16}$ × $8\frac{15}{16}$ in. (290 × 227 mm.). On vellum. About A.D. 550.

* * Written in large estrangelo letters, the most ancient form of Syriac characters.

The word "Peshitta" means "simple," and hence, perhaps, as applied to the Scriptures, "current," "common," in which case it may be compared with the term "Vulgate" used for the Latin Bible, or "Authorised Version" for the English.

Besides the Peshitta version there is another of great importance known as the Old Syriac. For fifty years this version was represented only by some fragments discovered in the British Museum in 1842 by William Cureton, and by three leaves found afterwards in the East and published in 1872. In 1892 two Cambridge ladies, Mrs. Lewis and her twin-sister Mrs. Gibson, found in the monastery of St. Catherine on Mt. Sinai a palimpsest manuscript, the under-writing of which proved to be a nearly complete copy of the four Gospels closely akin to that discovered by W. Cureton. A much more thorough comparison of this version with the Peshitta was now rendered possible. The relationship of the two is one of the most complex problems that the textual critic has to settle at the present time. Both are obviously of great antiquity, but in the present division of scholarship on the question it is inadvisable to hazard an opinion on the question of priority.

There are other Syriac versions, besides the two here mentioned, but none of the same importance for the history of the text. Of one of them, the Heraclean, two manuscripts are exhibited immediately above this one.

3. SYRIAC (HERACLEAN) LECTORY. *circa* 750.

A Syriac Lectionary of the Four Gospels. $9\frac{11}{16} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ in. (245 \times 190 mm.). On vellum. About 750.

* * Probably the oldest known text of the Heraclean version of the Syriac Gospels. The name of the version is derived from Thomas of Heraclea, Bishop of Hierapolis, who in A.D. 616 finished a complete revision, undertaken by himself, of the translation prepared in A.D. 508 by one named Polycarp for Philoxenus, a previous Bishop of Hierapolis.

4. SYRIAC (PESHITTA-HERACLEAN) NEW TESTAMENT. *circa* 1200.

The Four Gospels in the Peshitta form of the Syriac translation and the remainder of the New Testament in the Heraclean form of that version. $10\frac{13}{16} \times 7\frac{5}{16}$ in. (275 \times 186 mm.). On vellum. About 1200.

* * Written in Northern Mesopotamia in the estrangelo character.

Remarkable as one of the very few complete copies of a Syriac New Testament in any European library. The Apocalypse in the Heraclean version is not found in any other known manuscript.

5. COPTIC (SAÏDIC) VERSION OF ST. LUKE. 7th-8th cent.

Fragment of the Gospel of Saint Luke in the Saïdic form of the Coptic translation. $14 \times 10\frac{13}{16}$ in. (355 \times 275 mm.). On vellum. 7th-8th cent.

* * The New Testament is said to have been translated into Coptic before the close of the second century. There are two main forms of the Coptic version. Bohairic (also called Alexandrian and Memphitic) and Saïdic or Thebaic. The Bohairic version represents the dialect of Lower Egypt, from the Arabic name of which the term itself is derived. The Saïdic translation exhibits the dialect of Upper Egypt, and is less polished than the other.

6. COPTIC (BOHAIRIC) VERSION OF PROVERBS AND JOB. 14th cent.

The Book of Proverbs I-XIV, 26, and the whole Book of Job in the Bohairic form of the Coptic translation. $6\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$ in (176 \times 133 mm.). On paper. 14th cent.

* * This text was used by Archdeacon Tattam for his edition of 1846. The final note in the MS. states that the book was the property of the poor servant of Almighty God, Michael, deacon of the church of Atrib, who hopes for His pardon, mercy, and grace.

7. LATIN VERSION OF THE GOSPELS. 9th cent.

The four Gospels in Latin. With prologues, etc. $11\frac{11}{16} \times 7\frac{7}{8}$ in. (296 \times 200 mm.). On vellum. 9th cent.

* * Written in large Caroline minuscules. Initials in gold.

The Caroline minuscule hand is that reformed style of writing which was introduced in the reign of Charlemagne, by whose authority schools for

the training of scribes and others were established throughout the Empire. To assist him in his educational projects the Emperor procured the assistance of Alcuin, who spent the later years of his life in directing and promoting the literary studies that were then in course of reorganisation throughout Charlemagne's dominions.

8. LATIN VERSION OF THE GOSPELS. 10th cent.

The Four Gospels in Latin. With tables of Eusebian canons, prologues, etc. $9\frac{5}{8} \times 7\frac{9}{16}$ in. (240 × 192 mm.). On vellum. 10th cent.

* * * Written in the finest Caroline minuscule hand. With full-page decorative patterns executed in purple and gold at the commencement, and before each gospel. The tables of Eusebian canons are within illuminated architectural designs.

The manuscript was written and illuminated, probably at Cologne, for the Emperor Otto II (955-983), or for Otto III (983-1002).

9. ARMENIAN VERSION OF THE GOSPELS. 9th cent.

The Four Gospels in Armenian. $10 \times 7\frac{3}{16}$ in. (253 × 182 mm.). On vellum. 9th cent.

* * * A very fine example of the uncial character.

Until the close of the fourth century the Armenians used the Syriac version of the Bible. About A.D. 400 the first Armenian translation was commenced by St. Mesrop and the Armenian patriarch Isaac. Two of the former's pupils attended the Council of Ephesus in A.D. 431, and brought back with them some Greek manuscripts. St. Mesrop and the patriarch thereupon made a complete revision of their work in accordance with the new material. It is still somewhat uncertain whether the original translation was made from the Syriac, or the Greek, although there are grounds for thinking that the version was based on the former text. Some connection appears to have been established between it and the Old Syriac text, a fact which should considerably enhance its value.

CASE 3.

EARLY PRINTED TEXTS AND VERSIONS.

1. THE FIRST PRINTED HEBREW TEXT (PSALTER). BOLOGNA, 1477.

[*Colophon*], אמר דוד בן יוסף בן קמחי הספרדי . . . | בעת תושלמת מלאכה הספרים, אשר בדפוסי האותיות נקבעו לסדרים, | באotta מלאכה ימצאו שלש מאות ספרים . . . | תהילים עם פירוש הקמחי . . . | . . . (מיישטר יוסף ונירה חיים מרדכי יהוקיה) [Bologna] Fol. (i.e. 1477) (מיןטו, רלו)

* * * The first portion of the Old Testament in Hebrew that issued from the press ; accompanied by the commentary of Kimchi.

2. THE FIRST PRINTED HEBREW HISTORICAL BOOKS. SONCINO, 1485.

ראשית חנמה יראת הי [Begin.]
שונצינו רמו (i.e. Soncino, 1485) Fol.

* * * The first Biblical text produced by the celebrated Jewish press at Soncino, containing Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings, with the commentary of Kimchi.

3. THE FIRST PUBLISHED GREEK BIBLE. VENICE, 1518.

Πάντα Τὰ Κατ' Ἐξοχὴν Καλούμενα | Βιβλία Θείας Δηλαδὴ | Γραφῆς Παλαιᾶς Τε, | Καὶ Νέας. | Sacrae Scriptvrae Veteris, | Novaéqve Omnia. | [Aldine device beneath title.]

([*Colophon*] Venetiis In Aedib. | Aldi Et Andreae | Soceri. MDXVIII | Mense Febrva | rio. |) Fol.

* * This is the first edition of the whole Bible in Greek to be put into circulation. It was edited by the father-in-law and brothers-in-law of Aldus, by whom the press was managed after the death of Aldus.

4. THE FIRST PRINTED BIBLE. [MAINZ, 1456?]

[*Begin :*] Incipit epistola | sancti iheronimi ad | paulinum presbi-
terum de omnibus | diuine historie libris. capitulū p̄mū. ||[Fol.
5 recto, col. 1, text :] Incipit liber bresith quē nos genesim | . . .
dicim' | [End., fol. 641 verso, col. 2, line 40 :] Venio cito amen. Veni
domine ihe- | su. Gratia dñi nři ihesu cristi cū omni- | b3
vobis amē [Rubric] Explicit Apocalipsis. |

[Mainz ; before Aug. 24, 1456.] In 2 vols. Fol.

* * * This Latin Bible was amongst the first productions of the printing-press in Europe, and is the earliest work of any size that has survived to the present day. Twelve copies on vellum and twenty-nine on paper, in a more or less perfect state, are said to be known, out of an edition that may have consisted of 180 paper and 30 vellum copies.

The first copy of this Bible to attract attention was one in the library of Cardinal Mazarin, to which fact it owes its popular name of "Mazarin" Bible. To bibliographers it is known as the "42-line Bible," from the number of lines to a printed column, a name which serves to distinguish it from another printed about the same time, and styled for a similar reason the "36-line Bible," a copy of which is also in the Library. Neither Bible gives any definite information as to the place of printing, the names of the printers, or the date. The place of printing is allowed by general consent to be the city of Mainz. With regard to the printers the most probable view is that this "42-line Bible" was printed by Gutenberg, Johann Fust (to whom Gutenberg was originally indebted for financial assistance), and his son-in-law, Peter Schoeffer. For the date there is evidence in a rubricated example preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, of the date when the rubricator finished his work, in the form of a note appended to the copy by Heinrich Cremer, vicar of the collegiate church of St. Stephen at Mainz, August 24, 1456.

5. THE FIRST PRINTED POLYGLOT (AND GREEK) BIBLE. ALCALA,
1514-17.

Haec tibi pentadecas tetragonon respicit illud
Hospitium petri ζ pauli ter quinqꝫ dierum.
Namqꝫ instrumētum vetus hebdoas innuit : octo
Lex noua signatur. ter quinqꝫ receptat vtrunqꝫ.

[Arms of Cardinal Ximenes beneath the foregoing verse.] Vetus
testamentū multiplici lingua nūc | primo impressum. Et
imprimis | Pentateuchus Hebraico Gre- | co atqꝫ Chaldaico
idioma- | te. Adiūcta vnicuiqꝫ sua | latina interpreta- | tione. |
(Secūda[-Quarta] pars Veteris testamenti He - | braico
Grecoqꝫ idiomate nunc | primum impressa : adiun- | cta
vtriqꝫ sua latina | interpreta- | tione. | —[Vol. 5.] Nouum
testamentum | grece ζ latine in academia | complutensi nouiter
| impressum. | —[Vol. 6.] Vocabulary hebraicum atqꝫ
chaldai- | cū totius veteris testamenti cū alijs tra | ctabus

prout infra in prefatio- | ne continetur in academia | com-
 plutensi nouiter | impressum. | —[Colophon, vol. 4.] Explicit
 quarta et vltima pars totius veteris testamēti he- | braico
 grecoqz et latino idiomate nunc primū impressa in hac pre-
 clarissima Complutensi | vniuersitate. De mandato ac sumptibus . . . | . . . Francisci Ximenez de Cisneros . . . | . . . Cardinalis
 . . . | . . . Industria & solertia . . . | . . . Arnaldi Guillelmi
 de Brocario artis impres | sorie Magistri. Anno Domini
 Milles | simo qngētesimo decimo se- | ptimo. mēsis Iulii die
 | decimo. | —[Colophon, vol. 5.] Ad perpetuam laudem et
 gloriam | dei Ζ domini nostri iesu christi hoc sacrosanctum
 opus noui testa | menti Ζ libri vite grecis latinisqz characteribus
 nouiter impres | sum atz studiosissime emendatum : felici
 fine absolutū est in | hac preclarissima Cōplutensi vniuer-
 sitate : de mādatoζ | sumptibus . . . | . . . Frācisci Xime-
 nez de Cisne | ros . . . | . . . Cardinalis . . . | . . . | . . .
 industria Ζ soler | tia honorabilis viri Arnaldi guiliel | mi de
 Brocario artis impressorie | magistri. Anno domini Mil |
 lesimo quingentesimo de- | cimo quarto. Mensis | ianuarij
 die decimo. | —[Colophon, vol. 6.] Explicit vocabularium heb-
 raicum totius veteris testamenti cum | oībus dictiōibus chal-
 daicis in eodē veteri testamēto cōtentis : nouiter ipressū in
 hac preclarissima Cō- | plutensi vniuersitate. De mādato ac
 sūptibus . . . Francisci | Ximenez de Cisneros . . . Cardi |
 nalis . . . | . . . Industria & solertia honorabilis viri Arnaldi
 Guillelmi de | Brocario artis impressorie Magistri. Anno
 Domini Millesimo quin- | gentesimo decimo quinto. mensis
 Marcii die decima septima. |)

Alcala : A. G. de Brocario, 1514-17. 6 vols. Fol.

* * Titles within woodcut borders.

The first Polyglot Bible, printed in an edition of 600 copies at the expense of Cardinal Ximenes. The "Complutensian Polyglot" takes its name from Complutum, the Latin form of Alcala in Spain, where it was printed. The principal editor was D. Lopez de Zuñiga. The plan of the work was conceived in 1502 in honour of the birth of the future Emperor Charles V, but the work does not appear to have been in general circulation until 1522. Although the date of the printing of the last volume is 1517, the sanction of Pope Leo X was not obtained until March 22, 1520, and even then a further delay seems to have occurred before the actual distribution of the edition.

It is interesting to note that the celebrated passage on the "three witnesses" (1 John v, 7, 8), which is supported by no Greek manuscript older than the fifteenth century, appears in the Greek text of the New Testament.

The idea of issuing a Polyglot Bible was originally entertained by the great Venetian printer Aldus, who makes a promise in a Greek psalter published about 1497 of a triglot Bible, and in 1501 actually sent a specimen page to the German humanist Conrad Celtes.

6. THE FIRST PUBLISHED GREEK TESTAMENT. BASLE, 1516.

Novvm In | strumentū omne, diligenter ab Erasmo Roterodamo | recognitum & emendatum, nō solum ad græcam ueritatem, ue- | rum etiam ad multorum utriusq[ue] linguae codicum, eorumq[ue] ue- | terum simul & emendatorum fidem, postremo ad pro- | batissimorum autorum citationem, emendationem | & interpretationem, præcipue, Origenis, Chry | sostomi, Cyrilli, Vulgarij, Hieronymi, Cy- | priani, Ambrosij, Hilarij, Augusti- | ni, una cū Annotationibus, quæ | lectorem doceant, quid qua | ratione mutatum sit. | [9 lines.]

Apvd Inclytam | Germaniae Basilaeam. | [Printer's device.] | [6 lines.]
 ([Colophon, pt. 2, p. 675 :] *Annotationvm Erasmi Roterodami In Novvm | testamētum . . . | . . . | . . . | . . . finis. Basileæ, Anno salutis hūa | næ .M.D. XVI. Kalendis Martij. | —[Colophon at end :] Basileæ in aedibus Ioannis Frobenij Hammelburgenis | Mense Februario. Anno .M.D. XVI. | . . . | . . . | [Printer's device.]*) Fol.

* * This is the first edition of the Greek New Testament of Erasmus, which was also the earliest text to be put into circulation owing to the long delay in the issue of the "Complutensian Polyglot." Erasmus undertook the work at the suggestion of the printer, Froben, who was desirous of anticipating the edition of Alcala. The work was not begun until April, 1515, but was prosecuted with such rapidity that the edition was ready by April, 1516. Its critical value is less than that of the Complutensian edition, although owing to its more extended circulation it has had a much greater influence on the text. The parallel Latin translation was made by Erasmus himself.

7. ERASMUS'S EXHORTATION. MARLBOROW, 1529.

¶ An exhort | tation to the diligent stu- | dye of scripture / made by Eras- | mus Roterodamus. And | trāslated in to inglisshe. | ¶ An exposition in to the | seventh chaptre of the first pist- | le to the Corinthians. | ¢ |

([Colophon :] ¶ At Malborow in the londe of | Hesse. M.D. xxix.xx
daye Iu- | njij. By my Hans Luft. | [more probably at Antwerp by John
Hoochstraten (see page 41)], 8vo.

* * Title within woodcut border.

This work is a translation of the "Paraclesis" originally prefixed by Erasmus to his Greek New Testament, and afterwards published in separate form. The translation, as well as the exposition of 1. Cor. 7, is attributed to William Roye, who acted as amanuensis to William Tindale, whilst he was preparing his version of the New Testament.

8. THE SECOND ERASMUS GREEK TESTAMENT. BASLE, 1519.

Novvm Testa- | mentvm Omne, Mvlto Qvām Antehac Di |
ligentius ab Erasmo Roterodamo recognitū, emē | datum
ac translatum, nō solum ad Græcam ueritatē, uerum | etiam

ad multorū utriusq; linguæ codicum, eorumq; ueterū | simul & emēdatorum fidem, postremo ad probatissimorū | autorum citationem, emēdationem & interpretationē, præ- | cipue Origenis, Athanasii, Nazianzeni, Chrysostomi, Cy- | rilli, Theophylacti, Hieronymi, Cypriani, Ambrosij, Hila- | rij, Augustini, una cū Annotationibus recognitis, ac magna | accessione locupletatis quæ lectorem doceant, quid qua ra- | tione mutatū sit . . . | [6-lines.] | Addita sunt in singulas Apostolorum epistolas | Argumenta per Erasmvm Rot. | ([Colophon :] Basiliae In Aedibvs Ioannis Frobenii, | Anno Salvitis Hvmanae M.D. XIX. | Mense Martio. |) Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border.

The second edition of Erasmus's Greek New Testament, embodying many corrections.

This edition is said to have been employed by Luther for his translation of the New Testament into German.

9. THE THIRD ERASMUS GREEK TESTAMENT. BASLE, 1522.

Novvm Testa- | mentvm Omne, Tertio Iam Ac Di- | ligentius ab Erasmo Roterodamo recogni- | tum, non solum ad Græcam ueritatem, uerumetiam | ad multorum utriusq; linguæ codi- | cum, eorumq; ue- | terum simul & emendatorū fidem, postremo ad pro- | batissimorum autorum citationem, emē- | dationem & | interpretationem unā cum Annotationibus recog- | ni- | tis, ac magna accessione locupletatis, quæ lectorem do | ceant, quid qua ratione mutatum sit . . . | [10 lines.] | Addita sunt in singulas Apostolorum epi- | stolas, Argumenta per eundem. | ([Colophon :] Finis Novi Testamenti Totivs, Ad Græcam | Veritatem, Vetvstissimorvm'que Codi- | cvm Latin- | orvm Fidem, Et Ad Proba- | tissimorvm Avtorvm Citationem | Et Interpretationem Iam Ter | tio Accvrate Recogniti, | Opera Stvdio'que Des. | Erasmi Roterodami | Theologiæ Pro | fessoris. Anno | M. D. XXII. | . . . |

[Basel : J. Froben,] 1522. Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border.

The third edition of Erasmus's Greek New Testament. In this edition the passage relating to the Three Witnesses has been introduced in fulfilment of a promise made to the editor of the "Complutensian Polyglot" that if any Greek manuscript could be found in which the words occurred he would insert them. A Greek codex, now in Dublin, was produced in support of the reading, and Erasmus admitted it to the text as promised. This edition is the one which Tindale is said to have employed for his translation of the New Testament.

10. THE FIRST ERASMUS LATIN TESTAMENT. ANTWERP, 1520.

Novvm | Testamentum totum Eras | mo interpræte per eum
casti- | gatis aliquot locis, in qui- | bus operarū incuria,
fue- | rat erratū, adiecta et no | ua illi' p̄fatione. Nos | de
nostro numerum | adiecumus in mar | gine. |

*Antuerpie per Michaelm Hille | nium sub intersignio Rapi. | ([Colophon :]
| . . . M.D. XX. |)*

* * Title within woodcut border.

This appears to be the first edition of the Latin translation of Erasmus in a separate form.

CASE 4.

EARLY PRINTED VERSIONS OTHER THAN ENGLISH.

1. THE FIRST BIBLE WITH VERSE DIVISIONS. LYONS, 1528.

[Above border :] ~ Biblia ~ [Within woodcut border :] ♀ Habes
In Hoc Libro | prudens lector vtriusq; instrumenti nouam
tranlationē | æditam a . . . Sancte pa- | gnino lucēsi . . . |
. . . necnon & librum de interpretamentis hebraicorum, |
aramēorū, græcorumq; nominum, sacris in literis con- |
tentorū . . . | [6 lines] | . . . Habes & in libri fronte eiusdem
ἐπιτομήν | .i. Abbreviationem librorum historialium veteris
instru | menti, & erratorum castigationes quas quisq; exacte
con | spiciens suum corrigat librum, duas Ioannis Francisci |
Pici mirandulæ . . . Epistola [sic] ad eundem, | Epistolam
translatoris ad Clementem septimum Ponti | ficem maximum,
& proemium in quo maximis efferun- | tur laudibus sacræ
literæ. | 15 [Printer's device] 28 | [Colophon :] ¶ Veteris ac noui
instrumēti noua transla- | tio per . . . San | ctem Pagninū
Lucen. nuper ædita, explicit. | Impressa est autem Lugduni
per Antonium | du Ry. calcographum diligentissimū impen |
sis Francisci Turchi, & Dominici Bertici- | nium Lucēsum,
& Iacobi de Giuntis biblio | polæ ciuis Florētini. Anno dñi.
1527. Die | uero. xxix. Ianuarij. |

Lugduni : A. Du Ry, 1528. 4to.

* * * The first edition of the Latin version of Sanctes Pagninus. This translation was prepared with the view of providing a more correct rendering of the original than that of the ordinary Vulgate text. An edition revised by Servetus was published in 1542 at Lyons.

This is said to be the first printed Bible in which the verses are numbered, the division adopted for the Old Testament being that of the Hebrew text.

2. THE FIRST PRINTED DUTCH BIBLE. DELFT, 1477.

[Begin :] Hier begħit dat prologus vāder biblē | des ouersetters te
duytsche vtē latine | [Fol. 1 verso, col. 2, line 36:] . . . Hier
eyndet dat prologus | Ende hier begħint den text des eerstē |
boocx des bijbels gheheten. Genesis | [Fol. 2 recto, col. 1, line 1 :]

[I]nden begin sciep god | hemel en aerde . . . | *Etc.* [Colophon, vol. 1:] Delf in hollaut | [Arms of Delft.] | Deese ieghenwoerdiche bible mit ho | ren boecken. ende elc boeck mit alle | sijne capitelen bi enē notabelen mees- | ter wel ouergheset wt den latine in | duytsche ende wel naerstelic gecorri | geert ende wel ghespelt : was gemaect | te delf in hollant mitter hulpen gods | ende bij ons iacob iacobs soen en mau | ricius yemants zoen van middelborch | ter eeren gods. ende tot stichticheit | ende lerijsnghe der kersten ghelouighē | menschē. Ende wort voleynd. int iaer | der incarnaciē ons herē duysent vier | hondert zeueē en tseuentich. den thien | den dach der maent ianuario. | [Printer's device.] [Begin, vol. 2:] [D]it boeck paralipomenon is een | corte weder om halinge des ou | den testaments . . . | *Etc.* [Colophon, vol. 2:] Deese ieghenwoerdiche bible mit ho | ren boecken. ende elc boeck mit alle | sijne capitelen. bi enē notabelen mees- | ter wel ouergheset wt den latine in | duytsche ende wel naerstelic gecorri | geert ende wel ghespelt : was gemaect | te delf in hollant mitter hulpen gods | ende bij ons iacob iacobs soen en mau | ricius yemants zoen van middelborch | ter eeren gods. ende tot stichticheit | ende lerijsnghe der kersten ghelouighē | menschē. Ende wort voleynd. int iaer | der incarnaciē ons herē duysent vier | hondert zeueē en tseuentich. den thien | den dach der maent ianuario. | [Printer's device.]

Delft : Jacob Jacobszoen van der Meer and Mauricius Yemantszoen, 10 Jan. 1477. 2 vols. Fol.

* * The first printed Dutch version of the Holy Scriptures. It does not contain either the Psalms, or the New Testament, though both are found in a Vienna manuscript of this version. The translation, which is from the Latin text, is believed to have been made about the year 1300.

3. THE FIRST PRINTED FRENCH BIBLE. LYONS, [c. 1473-78].

[Begin.] Cy commence la table du | nouveau testament | [Fol. 21 recto :] Levvangile Selon Saint Mathiev [Col. 1:] Cy commēce le nouveau | testament Et premieremēt | leuuangile nostre seigneur | ihūcrist selon saint mahieu | [Colophon :] Cy finist lapocalipse et | samblablement le nouveau | testament veu et corrigé p | venerables personnes freres | iullien macho et pierre far | get docteurs en theologie de | l'ordre des augustins de lyō | sus le rosne Imprime en la | dicte ville de lyon par Bar | tholomieu buyer citoyen du | dit lion |

Lyons : B. Buyer [147-]. Fol.

* * Several editions of the Old and New Testaments in French were published at Lyons, c. 1473-78, being the earliest impressions of the Bible in that language.

4. THE FIRST PRINTED GERMAN BIBLE. [STRASSBURG, 1466.]

[Begin.] [P]rüder Ambrosius der hat | vns pracht ein cleine gab.
 . . . | Etc. [Fol. 4 recto, col. 1, line 37 :] [I]n dem anegang geschieff
 got | den himel vnd die erde. wann | Etc. [End., fol. 405 verso,
 col. 2, line 16 :] herre ihesu ich kum. Die genade vnsers herren
 ihe- | su cristi sey mit vns allen Amen.]

[Strassburg : Johann Mentelin, before June 27, 1466.] In 2 vols. Fol.

* * The first German Bible.

A copy of this Bible at Munich is stated to have been bought on June 27, 1466, and rubricated in the following year, whilst a copy at Stuttgart has a manuscript colophon : "Explicit liber iste anno Domini millesimo quadringentesimo quinquagesimo [erased] sexagesimo sexto formatus arte impressoria per venerabilem virum Johannem Mentell in Argentina." This German version, which is substantially the same as the other pre-Lutheran versions of the Bible, is said to have been in circulation in manuscript for more than a century prior to this date. It is taken from the Latin Vulgate text, although in the New Testament there are many instances of Old Latin readings. The place of its origin is not known, but there are indications of a connection with Bohemia. In this copy the titles to the Psalms are found immediately after the Psalms instead of at the end of the Bible.

5. THE FIRST PRINTED ITALIAN BIBLE. VENICE, 1471.

[Begin :] Epistola De don Nicolo di Ma- | lherbi ueneto al Reuerendissimo profes- | sore dela sacra Theologia maestro Laurē- | tio del ordine de sancto Francesco : nella | Biblia uulgatizata.
 | [Fol. 13 recto, head-title :] Genesis | [Col. 1, text :] [N]el Princi |
 pio Dio creo | Il Cielo et La terra. | Etc. [End., vol. 1 :] Finisse
 El Psalteri | o De David | [Vol. 2, fol. 2, recto, head-title :] Prologo
 [Col. 1] [I]vnnga La Epistola | quelli che iunge il sacerdo- | tio
 . . . | Etc. [Fol. 2 verso, head-title :] Proverbii [Col. 1, text:]
 [L]e Parabole De Salo | mone : cioe secondo la sentē | tia
 . . . | Etc. [Colophon :] Impresso fu questo uolume ne lalma
 pa- | tria de Venecia ne glanni di la salutifera i | carnatione del
 figluolo di le terno et omni- | potēte dio. | M.CCCC.LXXI.
 In. Kalen- | de. De. Avgvsto.]

Venice : Vindelinus de Spira, 1471. Fol.

* * The printer's name appears in the "Rime di Hieronymo Squarzafico de Alexandria cōposte a laude di questo uolume," preceding the colophon.

This Italian translation was the work of Nicolò di Malherbi, abbot of the Camaldolites, and was accorded the Papal approbation. The version, of which this is the first impression, was reprinted frequently during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The rendering is based on the Vulgate text.

6. LUTHER'S FIRST NEW TESTAMENT. WITTEMBERG, SEPT. 1522.

Das Neue Testa- | ment Deūtzsch. |*Vuittemberg. | [Melchior Lotter, September, 1522.]*

* * * The first edition of Luther's New Testament. The woodcuts illustrating the Apocalypse are attributed to Lucas Cranach. In this issue the Dragon and the Scarlet Woman are each depicted wearing a tiara in the manner of the Popes. This gave such offence that in the second issue of December, 1522 (of which there is a copy also in the library), the offending illustrations were cancelled, and an ordinary crown was substituted for the tiara in both instances.

Luther's translation was made, like that of Tindale, direct from the original Greek, with such collateral helps as Erasmus's second edition (1519) of his Greek-Latin Testament, and the earlier German versions.

Luther's work won immediate popularity, and during the eleven years following its publication, it was reprinted no fewer than eighty-five times.

7. LUTHER'S FIRST BIBLE. NUREMBERG, 1524.

Das Alte Te- | stament mit fleyss | verteutscht. | M.D.XXIIII. |
(Das Ander teyl des alten | Testaments mit fleyss verteutscht.
| M.D.XXIIII. | —Das Neue Testament mit | fleyss verteutscht.
| M.D.XXIIII. |)

[*Colophon, vol. 3 :] Gedruckt zu Nürnberg | durch Friderichen | Peyerus | M.D.XXIIII. | 3 vols. Fol.*

* * * Printed on vellum.

Title to vol. I within a woodcut border : there are woodcuts beneath the titles of the other volumes, and throughout the edition. The illustrations and capitals are all coloured by hand. The Old Testament volumes contain only the Pentateuch, and the historical and poetical books. The prophets did not appear until 1532, and the Apocrypha as a whole not until 1534.

For the Old Testament Luther used the Hebrew Bible printed at Brescia in 1494, and for the New the second edition of the Greek text of Erasmus, 1519.

CASE 5.

WICLIF, CAXTON AND FISHER.

1. PRE-WICLIFITE TRANSLATION OF THE APOCALYPSE. c. 1375.

Apocalypse : An English translation of a Norman version of the Apocalypse, with an exposition interspersed. $8\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. (209 × 139 mm.). On vellum. About 1375.

* * This translation was formerly attributed to Wiclif.

2. EARLY WICLIFITE NEW TESTAMENT. c. 1400.

The Four Gospels, Acts, Catholic Epistles, Epistles of St. Paul, and Apocalypse in the earlier form of the Wyclifite translation into English. Without prologues. $10\frac{11}{16} \times 7\frac{11}{16}$ in. (272 × 195 mm.). On vellum. About 1400.

* * The earlier version of the Wyclifite Bible was partly made by Wyclif himself, but for the major part was prepared under his supervision by Nicholas de Hereford and others. It appeared about 1382, two years before Wyclif's death. It gave so literal a rendering of the Latin Bible from which it was translated as to be in many places obscure. Soon after its completion a thorough revision was undertaken, which was carried to a successful issue by John Purvey, the friend of Wyclif's last days. This revision was completed by about 1388. The great majority of the Wyclifite manuscripts of the Bible exhibit the text of the later version.

3. QUEEN ELIZABETH'S COPY OF THE LATER WICLIFITE GOSPELS.

c. 1410.

The Four Gospels in the later form of the Wyclifite translation into English. With prologues. $6\frac{13}{16} \times 4\frac{13}{16}$ in. (173 × 122 mm.). On vellum. About 1410.

* * This manuscript of the Gospels was presented to Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of her progress through the city of London in January, 1558-59, by Francis Newport, who, for the sake of his religion, had been compelled to fly from this country during the reign of Queen Mary. There is prefixed to it a long letter written by Newport to the Queen.

According to Holinshed (edition of 1577) : At the "Little Conduit in Cheape" the citizens had erected a pageant, where one dressed as an old man to represent "Time" appeared, together with his daughter "Truth," holding a book in her hand, with the words *Verbum Veritatis*, "The word

of Truth," inscribed upon it. At the same time a child came forward, and explained in four verses the meaning of the pageant.

"When the childe had thus ended his speeche, hee reached his Booke towards the Queenes Maiestie, which a little before, Trueth had lette downe vnto him from the hill, whyche by Sir John Parrat was receiued and deliuered vnto the Queene. But shee as soone as she had receyued the Booke, kissed it, and with both hir hands helde vp the same, and so layd it vpon hir brest, with great thankes to the Citie therefore. And so wente forwarde towarde Paules Churcheyard."

4. LATER WICLIFITE BIBLE. c. 1430.

The Old Testament from Proverbs to Malachi, with the Apocryphal books found in the Wiclitifite version, and the New Testament. The later form of the Wiclitifite translation into English. With prologues to most of the books, and a table of lessons, etc., according to the use of Salisbury prefixed. $15\frac{1}{8} \times 10\frac{5}{8}$ in. (384 \times 270 mm.). On vellum. About A.D. 1430.

5. CAXTON'S "GOLDEN LEGEND." 1483.

[Begin. : Prefatory matter.] The holy ζ blessed doctour | saynt Ierom sayth thys aucto | rtye/ do alweye somme good | Etc.
 Sig. j [recto, head-title :] Of thaduent of our lorde | [Col. 1, text :] [T]he tyme of thauet | or comyng of our | Etc. [Cologophon :] Thus endeth the legende named | in latyn legenda aurea / that is to saye | in englysshe the golden legende / For | lyke as golde passeth in valewe alle | other metalles / so thys legende excedeth | alle other bookes / wherin ben contey- | ned alle the hygh and grete festys of | our lord / the festys of our blesyyd la | dy / the lyues passyons and myracles | of many other sayntes / and other hys- | toryes and actes / as al allonge here | afore is made mencyon / whiche w^rke | I haue accom- plished at the commaun- | demente and requeste of the noble and | puyssaunte erle / and my special good | lord wyllyam erle of arondel / ζ haue | fynysshed it at westmestre the twenty | day of nouembre / the yere of our lord | M / CCCC / lxxxijj / ζ the fyrist yere | of the reygne of Kyng Rychard the | thyrd | By me wyllyam Caxton |

Westminster : Wm. Caxton, 1483. Fol.

* * * The "Golden Legend" may very properly be placed among the English Bibles, containing, as it does, a fairly literal translation into English of nearly the whole of the Pentateuch, and a great part of the Gospels, mixed up with a good deal of mediæval gloss, under the guise of the lives of Adam, Abraham, Moses, the Apostles, and others.

The book must have been read extensively by the people, or to the people, long before the days of Tindale and Coverdale, since numerous editions were printed during the later years of the fifteenth century and the early part of the sixteenth century.

The reading in Genesis iii. 7 of " breeches " for " aprons," which is generally thought to be peculiar to the Genevan version of the Bible of 1560, and has led to its popular designation " Breeches Bible," was anticipated by Caxton in the " Golden Legend."

Hence this volume may be said to contain the earliest portion of the Bible printed in English.

The translation which was Caxton's own work was made from the French version by Jean de Vignay. The original Latin work was compiled by Jacobus de Voragine, archbishop of Genoa from 1292 to 1298.

6. MIRK (JOHN). " THE FESTIAL." 1483.

[*Begin. :]* this day is callyd the first sonday of aduent / that | is the sonday in cristys comyng / Therfore holy | etc.

([*Colophon :*] *Enprynted at westmynster by wyllyam Caxton the laste | day of Iuyn Anno domini M CCCC Lxxxiij |*) Fol.

* * The compiler of the " Festial," John Mirk, was a canon of the monastery of Lilleshul, an old foundation in Shropshire. His reason for undertaking the work is to be found in a manuscript copy where he says that, finding many priests, from incapacity, were, like himself, unable to teach their parishioners properly, he had taken pains to compile sermons for all the principal feasts of the year, which he had extracted chiefly from the " Golden Legend." Although the subjects of nearly every chapter in the " Festial " may be found in the " Golden Legend," they are treated very differently in the two works.

7. BISHOP FISHER'S TRANSLATION OF THE PENITENTIAL PSALMS. 1508.

[*Tudor badge above title.*] ¶ This treatise concernyng the fruytfull | saynges of Dauid the kynge & prophete in | the seuen penytencyall psalmes. Deuyded | in seuen sermons was made and compyled | by the ryght reuerente fader in god Iohan | fyssher doctour of dyuynyte and bysshop of | Rochester at the exortacion and sterynge of | the moost excellente pryncesse Margarete | countesse of Rychemoūt & Derby / & moder | to our souerayne lorde kynge Hēry the .vii. |

([*Colophon :*] ¶ *Here endeth the exposycyon of ī. vii. psalmes. Enpryn | ted at London in the fletestrete at the sygne of ī sonne | by wynkyn de worde. In the yere of oure lorde. M | CCCCC.viii. ī.xvi. day of ī moneth of Iuyn. The | xxiii. yere of ī reygne of our souerayne lorde kynge Hē | ry the seuenth. |*) 4to.

* * Fisher's rendering of the Seven Penitential Psalms is interspersed throughout the sermons.

CASE 6.

TINDALE AND "MATTHEW."

1. FACSIMILE OF TINDALE'S FIRST QUARTO NEW TESTAMENT. [COLOGNE, 1525.]

Facsimile Texts. | The First Printed | English New Testament. | Translated By | William Tyndale. | Photo-lithographed From The Unique Fragment, Now In | The Grenville Collection, British Museum. | Edited By | Edward Arber | . . . |

London : | 5 Queen Square, Bloomsbury. | 15 February, 1871. | . . . | 4to.

* * As the title indicates, this is a facsimile of the only known fragment, which is preserved in the British Museum, of the quarto edition of William Tindale's New Testament, the printing of which was commenced at the press of Peter Quentell at Cologne, probably in the month of July, 1525. The work had not proceeded far when the Senate of Cologne were persuaded by the intrigues of Cochlaeus, a relentless enemy of the Reformation, to issue an order forbidding the printers to continue the work. Before the order could be carried into effect, Tindale, taking with him the printed sheets, fled to Worms, where the enthusiasm for Luther, then at its height, offered a safe retreat. It is doubtful whether this edition was ever completed.

2. FACSIMILE OF TINDALE'S FIRST OCTAVO NEW TESTAMENT. [WORMS, 1525.]

The | First New Testament | Printed In The English | Language | (1525 or 1526) | Translated From The Greek By | William Tyndale | Reproduced In Facsimile | With An Introduction By | Francis Fry. . . . |

Bristol | Printed For the Editor | MDCCCLXII | 4to.

* * Printed on vellum.

With the woodcuts and capitals illuminated by hand.

This is a facsimile of the octavo issue of the first edition of Tindale's New Testament, which, there is every reason to believe, was printed at Worms by Peter Schoeffer.

Of this edition only two copies are known to have survived : one preserved in the Library of the Baptist College, Bristol, wanting the title-page ; the other in St. Paul's Cathedral Library, wanting seventy leaves.

We have no evidence that the edition commenced at Cologne was ever completed. It was in quarto, furnished with glosses, and it is assumed that, in order to baffle his enemies, Tindale commenced at Worms a new edition in small octavo without glosses. There is little doubt, however, that a quarto edition, with glosses, was also printed at Worms, although no copy is at present known to be extant.

To appreciate the value of Tindale's work as a translator, it needs only to be pointed out, as the result of a careful calculation, that at least eighty per cent. of the words in the Revised Version of 1881 stand precisely as they stood in Tindale's revised Testament of 1534.

This Testament was publicly and vigorously denounced by Bishop Tunstall at Paul's Cross, London, and burned in 1526. It was publicly burned a second time in May, 1530.

3. TINDALE'S PENTATEUCH. [1530-34.]

The first | Boke of Moses called | Genesis. Newly | correctyd |
and | amendyd by | W. T. | [MD]XX[XIIII] | ([Title :] A Prolo
| ge In To The Secon- | de boke of Moses called | Exodus. |
—[Title :] The secon | de boke of Moses, | cal- | led Exodus. |
? | —[Title :] A Pro- | loge In To The | thirde boke of Moses |
called Leuiticus. | —[Title :] ¶ The | Thyrde Bo- | ke of Moses.
Cal- | led Leuiti- | cus. | —[Title :] ¶ A prolo | ge into the fourth
boke of | Moses/ called Nu- | meri. | —[Title :] The four | the
boke of Moses called | Numeri. | —[Title :] A Pro | loge In To
The | fyfte boke of Moses, cal- | led Deuteronomye. |)

[With the "Marburg" imprint, but probably printed at *Antwerp*, by *Johann Hoochstraten* (see page 41).]

* * The titles, except that to the Prologue of Exodus, are within woodcut borders. With illustrations.

Of the book of Genesis two editions are known, the first issued in 1530, the second in 1534. The earlier edition has a colophon: "Emprented at Malborow in the lande of Hesse, by me Hans Luft . . . M.CCCCC.xxx. the .xvij. dayes of Januarij." The copy contained in this volume is of the revised edition of 1534, in which a Roman fount has been substituted for the original black letter one. The other books are of the first edition, and printed in Roman type, except Numbers, which is in the black letter found in works having the "Marburg" imprint.

This copy has the marginal glosses intact. With few exceptions these are found to be cut away, as ordered by the Bishop, at least the "most pestilent" of them. The reason for this order is obvious from a glance at the open pages.

This little volume ranks second only to the 1525 New Testament, and is no less important as a monument of the English language.

4. TINDALE'S REVISED NEW TESTAMENT. 1534.

¶ The ne- | we Testament / dylly | gently corrected and | compared
with the | Greke by Willyam | Tindale : and fynes- | shed in
the yere of ou | re Lorde God. | A.M.D. 7 xxxiiij. | in the
moneth of | Nouember. |

(¶ *Imprinted at An- | werp by Marten | Emperowr. | Anno. M.D.xxiij.*
|) 8vo.

* * With woodcuts.

The first revision of Tindale's Testament. In this edition the "Prologue to the Romans," filling thirty-four pages, first appears. This Prologue, written in 1526, after the issue of the first edition of the Testament, was printed in a separate form, of which the only copy known to have survived is preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

A second address appears in this edition: "Willyam Tindale, yet once more to the christen reader," in which he defends his own translation against the pretended corrections of George Joye, in the unauthorised edition which was published three months before the present one.

5. TINDALE'S SECOND REVISION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.
1535.

The ne- | we Testament yet once agay | ne corrected by Willyam
Tindale : | Where vnto is added a Kalendar | and a necessarye
Table, wherein ea | sely and lightelye may be foun- | de any
storye contayned in the | foure Euangelistes and | in the Actes
of the | Apostles. | Prynted in the yere of oure | Lorde God.
M.D. | & xxxv.

[*Antwerp : Martin Emperowr-de Keyser (?) for Govaert van der Hagen*
1535-34. 8vo.]

* * This edition is considered to be the last revised by the translator himself,
and forms the basis of the text printed in Matthew's Bible of 1537.

The clue to Van der Hagen is found in the monogram "G.H." which appears
in the border of the second title-page.

6. TINDALE'S SECOND REVISION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.
1536.

The | newe Testament yet once | agayne corrected by | Wylliam
Tyndall / Wheare | vnto is added an exhortacion | to the same
of Erasmus Rot. | with an Englysshe Kalender | And a Table /
necessary to fynde | easly and lyghtely any story | contayned in
the .iiii. euangelistes & in the Actes | of the Apostles | &c |
1536 |

[*Antwerp : Martin Emperowr?*] 1536. 8vo.

* * Title within woodcut border. With illustrations.

There are three or four octavo editions and three quarto editions of Tindale's
Testament of this date, the year of our translator's martyrdom, all of
which, though differing from each other in small points, agree generally
with the 1535 ("G.H.") edition.

The "exhortacion to the diligent studye of scripture" is a version attributed to W. Roye of the "Paraclesis" prefixed by Erasmus to the first (1516) and subsequent editions of his Greek New Testament. A separately printed edition (1529) of this work is shown in Case 3.

7. TINDALE (WILLIAM). "THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED MAMMON." 1528-1549.

The para- | ble of the Wicked | Mammon. |
Compiled in the yere | of our Lorde. M.D. | xxxvi. W.T.
 [. . . | . . . | . . . | . . .]

*Imprynted at London in | Fletestrete at the sygne of | the Rose Garlante
by | Willyam Cop- | land. | M.D. xlix. |*

* * The first edition of this work appeared in May, 1528, although it was not improbably written some time previously.

An exposition of the parable of the unjust steward. It was evident to Tindale that the evils with which his native country was infested could be traced to the love of money. He saw that the men in power falsely called "spiritual" had taken away the key of knowledge, and had beggared the nation by their extravagance, so he makes his attack on the so-called "spirituality," at the same time expounding the doctrine of "Justification by Faith."

8. TINDALE (WILLIAM). "OBEDIENCE OF A CHRISTIAN MAN." 1528.

**The obediē- | ce of a Christen man and how Chr | istē rulers
ought to governe / | where in also (yf thou ma- | rke diligently)
th- | ou shalt fynde | eyes to pe | rceave | the | crafty conveyaūce
of all | iugglers. |**

*([Colophon :] ¶ At Marlborow in the lāde of | Hesse The seconde daye of
Octo | ber. Anno. M.CCC.CC.xxvij/ by | me Hans lust. |) [More prob-
ably printed at Antwerp, by Johann Hoochstraten (see page 41).] 8vo.*

* * Title within woodcut border.

First edition of Tindale's most important original work, in which he laid down the duty of absolute submission to the temporal sovereign, and insisted upon the paramount authority of Scripture in matters of doctrine.

The book was brought to the King's notice by Anne Boleyn, and naturally met with his approval.

9. TINDALE (WILLIAM). "PRACTYSE OF PRELATES." 1530.

**The prac- | tyse of Prelates. | ¶ Whether the Kinges grace | maye
be separated from hys | quene / be cause she was | his brothers
wyfe. |**

*marborch | In the yere of oure Lorde. | M.CCCCC.7.XXX. | [More prob-
ably printed at Antwerp, by Johann Hoochstraten (see page 41).] 8vo.*

* * Title within woodcut border.

First edition of this work, which may be regarded as forming in part an answer to More's "Dyaloge."

This was Tindale's final and most unsparing indictment of the Roman hierarchy, in which he had the temerity to denounce in no uncertain manner the King's divorce proceedings, and excited his fury.

10. MORE (SIR THOMAS). "DYALOGE." 1531.

¶ A dyaloge of syr Thomas | More knyghte : one of the | counsayll
of our souerayne lorde the kyng and chaun | celloure of hys
duchy of Lancaster. Wheryn be | treatyd dyuers maters / as
of the veneracy- | on ⁊ worshyp of ymagys ⁊ relyques/—prayng
to sayntis / ⁊ goyng on pyl | grymage. Wyth many other |
thyngys touchyng the pes- | tytent secte of Luther | ⁊ Tyndale /
by the | tone bygone in | Saxony / ⁊ by the | tother laboryd |
to be brought in to England. | ¶ Newly ouersene by the sayd
syr Thomas More | chauncellour of England. | 1530. | ☩ |

[London : W. Rastell.] ([Colophon :] ¶ Anno Domini M.v.C.xxi. mense
Maii. |) Fol.

* * * This work, in which Sir T. More came forward in defence of the Roman Catholic Church, is written in the form of a discussion between More and a university student impressed by the teaching of the Reformers. It was intended to provide a refutation of Tindale's opinions as expressed in "The parable of the wicked mammon" and "The obedience of a Christen man," with a condemnation of his version of the New Testament. The work was first published in the summer of 1529, and Tindale lost no time in preparing his "Answer," which was probably printed in the spring or early summer of 1531. To this More replied by issuing "The cōfutacyon of Tindale's answer," and other controversial works published within the next year or two.

11. ERASMUS (DESIDERIUS). "ENCHIRIDION MILITIS CHRISTIANI." 1533.

¶ A booke called in latyn En- | chiridion militis christiani / | and
in englysshe the ma- | nuell of the christen | knyght / replenys-
shed with moste | holsome pre- | ceptes / | made | by the
famous | clerke Erasmus of | Roterdame / to the whiche | is
added a newe and | meruaylous pro- | fytable pre- | face. |

([Colophon :] . . . Im- | printed at London by wynkyn | de worde / for
Iohan Byddell / | otherwyse Salisbury / the xv. | daye of Nouembre. And be
for | to sell at the sygne of our Lady | of pytie next to Flete bridge. | 1533. |
. . . |) 8vo.

* * * Title within woodcut border.

First English edition.

The translation is attributed to W. Tindale.

A bold outspoken protest against the wicked lives of monks and friars, which Tindale translated from the Latin and presented to Sir John and Lady Walsh, as his authority for the views he had expressed in the heat of controversy with the divines at Little Sodbury.

12. FOXE (JOHN). "ACTS AND MONUMENTS." 1563.

**Actes and Monuments of these latter and perillous dayes, touching
matters of the Church wherein ar comprehended and de-
scribed the great persecutions & horrible troubles, that haue**

bene wrought and practised by the Romishe Prelates, speciallye
in this Realme of England and Scotlande, from the yeare of our
Lorde a thousande, vnto the tyme nowe present. . . .

*Imprinted at London by John Day, dwellyng ouer Aldersgate . . . ([Colo-
phon :] . . . Anno. 1563. the. 20. of March . . .) Fol.*

* * First edition.

With woodcuts. The volume is open at the illustration depicting the burning
of Tindale at Vilvorde in Brabant on October 6, 1536.

John Foxe was one of the most convinced and stalwart of the champions of the
Reformation, and his work, popularly known as "the Book of Martyrs,"
with all its faults, is the epic of the martyr age of the Church of England.

13. "MATTHEW'S BIBLE." 1537.

[Title within woodcut border :] D The Byble / | which is all the
holy Scrip- | ture : In whych are contayned the | Olde and
Newe Testament truly | and purely translated into En- | glysh
by Thomas | Matthew. | & [4 lines.] | M,D,XXXVII, |
[Below border :] Set forth with the Kinges most gracyous
lycēce | Fol.

[Antwerp ? : For R. Grafton and E. Whitchurch, of London.] 1537. Fol.

* * With woodcuts.

"Thomas Matthew" is generally considered to be a name assumed by John
Rogers, an intimate friend of Tindale, probably his literary executor, who
became the first martyr in the Marian persecution.

This version comprises a reprint of Tindale's Testament and Pentateuch.
From Ezra to the end of the Apocrypha, including Jonah, it is substantially
Coverdale's version. But from Joshua to Chronicles the text differs
so much from Coverdale's, that it is supposed to be from the translations left
behind by Tindale. The work of Rogers was probably confined to the
general task of editing the materials at his disposal, and preparing marginal
notes collected from various sources. This is generally considered to be
the real primary version of our English Bible.

Of the place of printing and the printer nothing is definitely known, but con-
jecture points to Antwerp. Jacob van Meteren is sometimes credited
with the work, but the press of Martin Lempereur has also been suggested,
as the printer chosen by Tindale to execute his latest works, and also
Matthew Crom.

The licence was obtained from Henry VIII by his minister, Thomas Cromwell,
whose autograph appears above the title of the copy on exhibition, at the
desire of Archbishop Cranmer.

14. "MATTHEW'S BIBLE." 1537.

[Title within woodcut border :] D The Byble / | which is all the
holy Scrip- | ture : In whych are contayned the | Olde and
Newe Testament truly | and purely translated into En- | glysh

by Thomas | Matthew. |  | [4 lines.] | M.D.XXXVII, |
[Below border :] Set forth with the Kinges most gracyous
lycēce | Fol.

[Antwerp? : For R. Grafton and E. Whitchurch, of London.] 1537. Fol.

* * Another copy of the "Thomas Matthew" Bible.

The open pages show the commencement of the second part of the Bible, containing "The Prophetes in Englysh." On the reverse of the title, at the four corners, are four flourished initials : "R.G." and "E.W.," which are thought to stand for Richard Grafton and Edward Whitchurch, the London printers, for whom the Bible was printed. In the centre of the page is an engraving representing Isaiah vi.

On one of the preliminary leaves are other two floriated initials : "I.R.," thought to stand for John Rogers, and at the end of the second part still other two : "W.T.," thought to stand for William Tindale.

CASE 7.

MILES COVERDALE.

1. "COVERDALE'S BIBLE." 1535.

Biblia | The Bible | that | is, the holy Scripture of the | Olde an
New Testament, faith- | fully and truly translated out | of
Douche and Latyn | in|to Englishe. | M.D.XXXV. | [10 lines.]

[Zurich : Christopher Froschover ?], 1535. Fol.

. Title within woodcut border, with 188 woodcuts, printed from 68 separate
wood-blocks by being used twice and thrice, and in one case as often as
eleven times.

The first complete Bible printed in English, and probably the original issue, for
the textual part of the title-page is printed from founts of type similar
to those used in the body of the book. (Compare no. 2.)

The translation was made and edited by Miles Coverdale, afterwards (1551-53)
Bishop of Exeter, not from the original Greek and Hebrew, but from
"fyue sundry interpreters" : the German-Swiss of Zwingli and Leo Juda ;
The Latin version of Pagninus ; the German version of Luther ; the
Latin Vulgate ; and Tindale's version of the Pentateuch and New
Testament.

Nothing is definitely known of the place of printing, or of the name of the printer,
but certain features point to Zurich, and to Christopher Froschover, who
printed the 1550 edition of this version.

The Psalter in the "Book of Common Prayer" is substantially the same as
that printed in the Coverdale Bible of 1535, and actually the same as that
printed in the "Great Bible" of 1539.

There is a curious reading in Jer. viii. 22, where "Balm in Gilead" is rendered
"Triacle at Galaad."

The colophon states : "Prynted in the yeare of our Lorde M.D.XXXV., and
fynished the fourth daye of October."

The "dedication to Henry VIII" and to "your dearest iust wyfe, and moost
vertuous Pryncesse, Quene Jane, Amen" is signed : "Myles Couerdale,
who submits his poore translacyon unto the spirite of truth in your grace."
It is not printed in the same type as the body of the book, but in a type
known to have been in the possession of James Nicolson, of Southwark,
and to have been used by him. James Nicolson was evidently the agent
and distributor of the Bible in this country.

This first edition of the Coverdale Bible was issued without any distinct royal
sanction, but it was not suppressed.

2. "COVERDALE'S BIBLE." 1535.

• Biblia & | The Byble : that | is / the holy Scrypture of the | Olde and Newe Testament, | faythfully translated in | to Englyshe. M.D.XXXV. | [12 lines.]

[Zurich : Christopher Froschover ?], 1535. Fol.

* * In this second copy of the first complete Bible printed in English, the title-page differs from the one above, in that the textual part of it is printed in the same type as the dedication to Henry VIII, which is known to have been in the possession of James Nicolson, of Southwark, and to have been used by him.

In every other particular this copy corresponds to the one above, except that between parts one and two, there is a map measuring $15\frac{5}{8} \times 11\frac{5}{8}$ inches, printed from a wood-block. Very few copies of this map are known to have survived, and this copy differs from all others, in that the names and inscriptions are in Latin, whilst in the other copies they are in English.

The block of the map passed into Nicholson's hands, and it was reissued thirty-nine years later by Richard Jugge in his 1574 edition of the "Bishops' Bible."

In this copy the "dedication to Henry VIII," is to "your . . . iust wyfe and most vertuous Prynnesse Quene Anne, Amen."

3. "COVERDALE'S BIBLE." 1537.

• Biblia & | The Byble, that | is the holy Scripture of the | Olde and Newe Testament, fayth- | fully translated in Englysh, and | newly ouersene & corrected. | M.D.XXXVII. | [11 lines.] |

¶ *Imprynted in Sowthwarke for James Ny | colson. 1537. Fol.*

* * Title within the same woodcut border as that employed for the first edition. This is the second edition of Coverdale's Bible.

In the Psalter the ordinary Latin headings are prefixed. These had been omitted in the first edition.

Although the title says "newly ouersene and corrected" there are no obvious traces of this care, and it appears to be an exact reprint of the 1535 text.

The work of printing was done at Nicolson's press at Southwark, and it is possible that this folio edition was the first complete Bible to be printed in England.

Excluding the title-borders, there are 94 illustrations printed from 57 separate blocks, some of which have been repeated.

4. "COVERDALE'S BIBLE." 1537.

• The Byble. | that is the holye Scrypture | of the Olde and Newe Testamente | faythfully translated in Englysh, & newly | ouersene and correcte. | M.V.XXXVII. | [11 lines.] |

¶ *Imprynted in Sowthwarke in Saynt Thomas Hospital by James Nycolson. 1537. 4to. Set forth with the Kynges moost gracious licence.*

* * Title within a woodcut border composed of four ornamental blocks, with a medallion containing two heads in the centre of the top. Only two illustrations occur in the text.

This is the first of the Coverdale Bibles to be issued with royal sanction as "set forth with the Kynges moost gracious licence," which was obtained probably by the influence of Thomas Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Essex. Although the title says "newly ouersene and corrected," there are no obvious traces of this care. It is an exact reprint of the 1535 text, with the customary printer's errors and variations.

The "dedication to Henry VIII" is a verbatim reprint from the first edition, except that "Quene Jane" is substituted for "Quene Anne."

5. "COVERDALE'S BIBLE." 1550.

C The Whole | Byble. | that is the holy scripture | of the Olde and Newe testament | faythfully translated into | Englyshe by Myles | Couerdale and | newly ouer | sene and correcte. | | M.D.L. | [2 lines.]

Prynted for Andrewe Hester [by Christopher Froschover of Zurich?] dwellynge | in Paules churchyard at the sygne | of the whyte horse, and are | there to be solde, 1550. 4to. Set forth with the Kynges mooste gracious licence.

* * Title within a woodcut border of architectural design with two supporting figures. Many initials represent scenes from the Dance of Death.

This is the latest reprint of the Bible of 1535 issued during the translator's lifetime. It seems to have been printed by Christopher Froschover of Zurich, who issued it with a title bearing his name and device, and eighteen leaves of preliminary matter in the same angular foreign type as the body of the book. It was also published (as in this case) by Andrew Hester of London, with another title and new preliminary leaves, but the Bible is undoubtedly Froschover's work.

The volume concludes with the following colophon : "To the honoure and prayse of God / was this | Byble prynted and fynished in the yeere of oure | Sauoure Jesu Christ M.D.L. the | xvi daye in the moneth | of August." |

6. "COVERDALE'S DIGLOT NEW TESTAMENT." 1538.

The newe tes- | tament both Latine and | Englyshe ech correspon-
dent to | the other after the vulgare texte, com- | munely
called S. Jeroms. Fayth- | fully translated by Myles | Couer-
dale. | Anno. M.CCCCC.XXXVIII. | [4 lines.]

*Printed at Southwarke | by James Nicolson. | 1538. 4to. Set forth
wyth the Kyn | ges moost gracious licence. |*

* * The first edition of Coverdale's Diglot New Testament.

Coverdale was in hearty accord with Tindale in the defiance of the Romanist conservative forces, but he was at heart a man of peace, and he was willing to go great lengths to assure the timid, and to draw over the wavering. To this end he prepared this edition of the New Testament, giving, side by side with the Latin Vulgate of that day, a very literal English version,

which differs from his former translation, in order that readers might be able to compare the Vulgate and English versions.

When the book appeared it was found to be so full of misprints that Coverdale repudiated it, and immediately arranged for an edition to be printed under his own superintendence in Paris, from the press of Francis Regnault (see no. 8).

7. "COVERDALE'S DIGLOT NEW TESTAMENT." 1538.

The newe tes- | tament both in Latine and | Englyshe eche corres-
pondente to | the other after the vulgare texte, com - | munely
called S. Jeromes. Fayth- | fullye translated by Johan |
Hollybushe. | Anno. M.CCCCC.XXXVIII. | [4 lines.] |

Prynted in Southwarke | by James Nicolson. | 1538. 4to.

Set forth wyth the Kyn- | ges moost gracious lycence.

* * The second edition of Coverdale's Diglot New Testament.

When Coverdale repudiated Nicolson's faulty first edition and undertook himself to bring out another in Paris (see no. 8), Nicolson, on his own account, published his second and corrected issue, and placed on the title-page the name of Johan Hollybushe, in substitution for Miles Coverdale. It has been suggested that Johan Hollybushe may stand for the pseudonym, or even the real name of Nicolson's editor. Coverdale's Dedication and address are retained.

8. "COVERDALE'S DIGLOT NEW TESTAMENT." 1538.

¶ The new testamen both in | Latin and English after | the vulgare
texte : | which is red in | the churche. | Translated and cor-
rected by My- | les Couerdale : and prynted in | Paris. by
Fraunces Regnault. | M.cccc.xxxxviii. | in Nouembre. |

*Prynted for Richard Grafton | and Edward Whitchurch | cytezens of London. |
1538. 4to. Cum gratia & priuilegio regis.*

* * This is the edition issued under Coverdale's own superintendence, in November, 1538, at Paris, when and where the printer Regnault was busy, also under the superintendence of Coverdale, preparing the first edition of the "Great Bible," which appeared in 1539.

9. "COVERDALE'S NEW TESTAMENT." 1538.

The new | Testament of oure | Sauyour Iesu | Christ. | Faythfully
translated & | lately correct : wyth a | true concordaunce in
the | margent & many neces- | sary annotacions decla- | rynge
sondry harde pla- | ces cōteyned in the text. | Eympt in the
yeare | of our Lorde. Mdxxxviiij. |

Antwerp : Matthew Crom, 1538. 8vo.

* * Title (which is wanting in this copy) within woodcut border representing Moses with the tables of the Law, and the Day of Pentecost.

The book contains in all about 200 woodcuts. These illustrations are said to be by Lieven de Witte, a painter of Ghent, and to have appeared before in a work entitled "Jesu Christi Vita," printed by M. Crom in 1537. At Acts ii occurs a full page cut of the Day of Pentecost. In Revelation there are 21 full page illustrations.

CASE 8.

THE "GREAT BIBLE," TAVERNER'S, AND THE "GENEVAN."

1. THE GREAT BIBLE. 1539.

¶ The Byble in | Englyshe, that is to saye the con- | tent of all the holy scripture, bothe | of þ olde and newe testament, truly | translated after the veryte of the | Hebrue and Greke textes, by þ dy- | lygent studye of dyuerse excellent | learned men, experte in theforsayde | tonges. |

¶ *Prynted by Rychard Grafton & Edward Whitchurch. | . . . | . . . | 1539. | ([Colophon :] | . . . | . . . Fynisshed in Apryll, | Anno. M.CCCCC. xxxix. | ♫ | . . . |) Fol.*

* * Title within woodcut border. With illustrations.

The first edition of the "Great Bible," so called from its size, and from the fact that it is referred to, in the Injunctions issued to the clergy by Thomas Cromwell in 1538, as "the hole byble of the largyest volume" ordered to be "set vp in sum conuenient place wythin the said church that ye haue cure of, where-as your parishoners may most cōmodiously resorte to the same and reade it."

This is a revision by Coverdale of "Matthew's Bible" of 1537, by the aid and with the assistance of Thomas Cromwell. It was printed partly at Paris and partly at London.

2. THE "GREAT BIBLE," WITH PROLOGUE. 1540.

¶ The Byble in | Englyshe, that is to saye the con- | tent of al the holy scripture both | of þ olde, and newe testamēt, with | a prologue therinto made by | the reuerende father in | God Thomas | archbysshop | of Canter | bury, | ¶ This is the Byble apoynted | to the vse of the churches. |

[London] : ¶ *Prynted by Rychard Grafton. | . . . | mdxl | ([Colophon :] | . . . | . . . Fynisshed in Apryll, Anno. M.CCCCC.XL. | ♫ | . . . |) Fol.*

* * Title within woodcut border. With illustrations.

The second edition of the "Great Bible" (April, 1540), and the first to contain Cranmer's Prologue, which was included in all subsequent editions of the "Great Bible," of which there were six. It is often styled "Cranmer's Bible," but improperly so, for the Archbishop had little if anything to do with it beyond writing the Prologue.

In the Prologue there is an interesting passage relating to the earlier vernacular versions of the Scriptures :—

“ And yet, yf the matter shulde be tryed by custome, we myght also allege custome for the readyng of the scripture in the vulgare tonge, and prescrybe the more auncient custome. For it is not moch aboue one hundredth yeare ago, sens scripture hath not bene accustomed to be redde in the vulgar tungē within this realme, and many hundred yeares before that, it was translated and redde in the Saxones tonge, whych at that tyme was oure mothers tonge. Wherof there remayneth yet diuers copyes foūde lately in olde abbeis, of soch antique maners of writynge and speaking, that fewe men nowe ben able to reade and vnderstande thē. And when this language waxed olde and out of comē vsage, because folke shulde not lacke the frute of reading, it was agayne translated in y newer language. Wherof yet also many copies remayne and be dayly founde.”

3. “ TAVERNER’S BIBLE.” 1539.

The Most | Sacred Bible, | Whiche is the holy scripture, con- | teyning the old and new testament, | translated into English, and newly | recognised with great diligence | after most faythful exem- | plars, by Rychard | Taverner | . . . | . . . |

Prynted at London in Fletestrete at | the sygne of the sonne by John Byd- | dell, for Thomas Barthlet, | . . . | . . . | M.D.XXXIX. | Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border.

The first edition of “ Taverner’s Bible,” a revision of “ Matthew’s Bible ” of 1537. Taverner aimed at compression and vividness, but exercised little or no influence on later revisions.

4. BECKE’S REVISION OF “ MATTHEW’S BIBLE.” 1549.

The Byble, that | is to say all the holy Scri- | pture : In whynch are cō- | tayned the Olde and | New Testamente, | truly & purely trā- | slated into En- | glish, & nowe | lately with | greate in- | dustry & diligē- | ce recognised. | [4 lines.]

¶ Imprynted at | London by Ihon Daye, dwelling | at Aldersgate and William | Seres, dwelling in | Peter Colledge. | . . . | . . . | xvii. day of August. M.DXLIX. | Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border. With illustrations.

A close reprint of “ Matthew’s Bible ” of 1537, with the notes, etc., revised by Edmund Becke. It is of no importance textually.

In this Bible is to be found the curious note at the end of 1 Pet. iii. on the words “ To dwell w̄ a wyfe accordinge to knowledge ” in which occurs the sentence : “ And yf she be not obedient and healpfull vnto hym, en-deuoureth to beate the feare of God into her heade, that therby she maye be compelled to learne her duitie and do it.”

5. NEW REVISION OF TINDALE'S NEW TESTAMENT. [1552.]

**The newe Testament | of our Sauiour Iesu Christe. Faythfully
tran- | slated out of the Greke. | ¶ Wyth the Notes and expositi-
tions of the darke pla- | ces therein. | Vnuat [Portrait of Edward VI]
Rex. | [5 lines.]**

([Colophon, beneath device :] *Imprynted at London by Rycharde Jugge,
dwel- | lynge in Paules churche yarde at the signe of the byble.* | [4 lines.])
[1552.] 4to.

* * * With woodcuts.

A new revision of Tindale's New Testament. The notes and introductions are entirely new. In the dedicatory epistle addressed to Edward VI. R. Jugge speaks of "vsing thaduise and helpe of godly learned men," but who these were is not known.

6. THE "GENEVAN NEW TESTAMENT." 1557.

**The | Nevve Testa- | ment Of Ovr Lord Ie- | sus Christ. | Con-
ferred diligently with the Greke, and best ap- | proued transla-
tions. | VVith the arguments as wel before the chapters, as for
euery Boke | & Epistle, also diuersities of readings, and moste
proffitable | annotations of all harde places : wherunto is
added a copi- | ous Table. | [Woodcut beneath title.]**

At Geneva | Printed By Conrad Badius. | M.D.LVII. | 8vo.

* * * The only edition of any part of the Scriptures issued during the reign of Queen Mary (1553-58). It was edited by an exile, and printed at Geneva. This version is ascribed to William Whittingham, one of the band of English exiles who found an asylum at Geneva. He married a sister of Calvin's wife, and in 1557 succeeded John Knox as Pastor of the English Congregation.

The text is based upon Tindale's, compared with the "Great Bible," and influenced by Beza's Latin translation.

It forms the groundwork of the New Testament in the "Genevan Bible" of 1560, but is distinct. It was the first Testament to be printed in Roman type and the first to show verse divisions, and, with its elaborate apparatus of arguments, etc., forms the first critical edition of the New Testament in English.

7. THE "GENEVAN BIBLE." 1560.

**The Bible | And | Holy Scriptvres | Conteyned In | The Olde And
Newe | Testament. | Translated Accor- | ding to the Ebrue and
Greke, and conferred With | the best translations in diuers
languages. | With Moste Profitable Annota- | tions vpon all the
hard places, and other things of great | importance as may
appeare in the Epistle to the Reader. | [Woodcut beneath title, with
texts round it.]**

At Geneva. | Printed By Rovland Hall. | M.D.LX. | 4to.

* * With maps and woodcuts.

The first edition of the "Genevan Version." The earliest Bible printed in Roman type, with verse divisions, and in a handy and cheap form.

The revision was mainly the work of three men : Wm. Whittingham, Anthony Gilby, and Thomas Sampson, exiles at Geneva.

It obtained speedy and permanent popularity, and although never formally recognised by authority for three generations maintained its supremacy as the Bible of the people. It is said that its phrases find an echo in quotations from Shakespeare to Bunyan. Between 1560 and 1640 something like 150 editions were called for. It was reckoned a better translation than any that had ever been printed before, probably because it embodied in the notes the current and popular Calvinism of that day.

8. THE FIRST BIBLE PRINTED IN SCOTLAND. 1576-79.

**The Bible | And Holy Scriptvres | Conteined In The | Olde And
Newe | Testament. | Translated According To The | Ebrue &
Greke, & conferred with the beste translations | in diuers
languages. | (.) | With Moste Profitable Annotations | Vpon
All The Hard Places Of The Holy Scriptvre, | and other things
of great importance, mete for | the godly Reader. | (.) | [Arms
of James VI. beneath title, between "God Save The King."]**

*Printed In Edinbrugh | Be Alexander Arbuthnet, Printer to the Kingis
Maiestie, dwelling | at ye Kirk of feild. 1579 | . . . | . . . | (The | Newe
Testament | . . . —At Edinbrugh. | ↗ Printed by Thomas | Bassandyne.
| M.D.LXXVI. | . . . |) Fol.*

* * With woodcuts.

The first English Bible printed in Scotland, and for thirty-one years the only edition of the Scriptures printed there. It is an exact reprint of the 1561-62 Genevan, and the first edition of that version in folio. It was begun in 1576 by Thomas Bassandyne, the King's printer, and finished in 1579 by his coadjutor Alex. Arbuthnet. By order of the General Assembly every parish in Scotland subscribed a fixed amount before the work was undertaken. Bassandyne died before the completion of the work. As Arbuthnet was not engaged upon the work in the beginning his name did not appear on the New Testament (printed in 1576), and Bassandyne's name does not appear on the Old Testament portion, which was the last to be printed. It has no independent value textually.

CASE 9.

THE “BISHOPS’ BIBLE,” RHEIMS, AND DOUAY.

1. THE “BISHOPS’ BIBLE.” 1568.

The. holie. Bible. [*within engraved compartment*] | conteynyng the olde
| Testament and the newe. | *Engraving beneath title.*]

([*Colophon :*] *Imprinted at London in povvles | Churchyarde by Richardre*
Jugge . . . | . . . | . . . | [Printer’s device.] | . . . | . . . |) [1568.] 2 vols.
Fol.

* * The engraving beneath the title contains a portrait of Queen Elizabeth,
with a verse from Rom. i. in Latin.

The first edition of the “Bishops’ Bible.” A revision of the “Great Bible”
version, undertaken by Archbishop Matthew Parker, with the assistance
of many bishops and well-known Biblical scholars. Everything was done
to make the book attractive, it was profusely illustrated, and embellished,
with questionable taste, with portraits of the Queen, Leicester, and
Burleigh.

In April, 1571, the Convocation of Canterbury ordered that “every archbishop
and bishop should have at his house a copy of the holy Bible of the largest
volume, as lately published at London, and that it should be placed in the
hall or large dining-room, that it might be useful to their servants or to
strangers.” But this order met with the general fate of ecclesiastical
edicts.

The price at which this edition was sold in 1571 was 27s. 8d., or about £16 of
our present money.

2. THE SECOND FOLIO “BISHOPS’ BIBLE.” 1572.

The. holie. Bible. | [*Engraving beneath title.*]

([*Colophon :*] ~~as~~ *Imprinted at Lon- | don In Powles Chvrcheyarde By |*
Richardre Jugge . . . | . . . 1572 | . . . | [Printer’s device.] | . . . | . . . |)
Fol.

* * Title within engraved compartment.

The engraving beneath the title contains a portrait of Queen Elizabeth, with a
verse from Rom. i. in Latin.

The second folio edition of the “Bishops’ Bible.” The principal feature of
this edition is its double version of the Psalter, which exhibits, printed side
by side : “1. The translation vsed in common prayer. 2. The translation
after the Hebrewes.”

Practically, the “Bishops’ Bible” was a failure ; it never succeeded in in-
gratiating itself into the favour of either laity or clergy.

3. THE SECOND QUARTO "BISHOPS' BIBLE." 1573.

• The holie Byble. | [Woodcut beneath title.]

([Colophon :] • Imprinted at London | in Powles Churchyaerde by Richard Jugge, | . . . | . . . | [Printer's device beneath colophon.]) (1573.) 4to.

* * The woodcut beneath the title contains a portrait of Queen Elizabeth, with a verse from John v.

The second quarto edition of the "Bishops' Bible." In this and all succeeding editions, except the folio of 1585, the Prayer Book version of the Psalter is substituted for the translation given in the folio of 1568.

4. TOMSON'S REVISION OF THE "GENEVAN NEW TESTAMENT." 1576.

The | Nevv Testa- | ment of Ovr Lord | Iesvs Christ Transla- | ted
Ovt Of Greeke | By Theod. Beza : | Whereunto are adioyned
brief Summaries of doctrine vpon | The Euangelistes and Actes
of the Apostles, together | with the methode of the Epistles of
the Apo- | stles by the said Theod. Beza : | And also short
expositions on the phrases and hard places taken | out of the
large annotations of the foresaid Authour and | Ioach. Camer-
arius, By P. Loseler. Villerius. | Englished by L. Tomson. |
[Woodcut beneath title with verse surrounding it.]

*Imprinted at London by Christopher Barkar | dwelling in Poules Church-
yeard at the | signe of the Tigres head. | 1576. | . . . | 8vo.*

* * With woodcut map.

The first edition of Tomson's revision of the "Genevan New Testament."

The alterations resulted from a close comparison of the Genevan text with Beza's Latin version of 1565. This recension became the final form of the "Genevan New Testament."

5. THE "RHEIMS NEW TESTAMENT." 1582.

The | Nevv Testament | Of Iesvs Christ, Trans- | lated Faithfullly
Into English, | out of the authentical Latin, according to the
best cor- | rected copies of the same, diligently conferred vwith
| the Greeke and other editions in diuers languages : VVith
Argvments of bookees and chapters, Annota- | tions, and other
necessarie helpes, for the better vnder- | standing of the text,
and specially for the discouerie of the | Corrvptions of diuers
late translations, and for | cleering the Controversies in religion,
of these daies : | In The English College of Rhemes. | [15 lines.]

Printed At Rhemes, | by Iohn Fogny. | 1582. | . . . | 4to.

* * Title within lace border.

The first Roman Catholic version of the New Testament printed in English. Translated from the Latin Vulgate by Gregory Martin, William Allen (afterwards Cardinal), and Richard Bristow, but principally by the first-named. This version exercised an influence upon the terminology of the 1611 Bible (the authorised version), but not upon the structure of its text. The Old Testament was not issued until 1609 at Douai.

6. FULKE'S REFUTATION OF THE "RHEIMS NEW TESTAMENT."
1589.

The | Text Of The New | Testament Of Iesvs | Christ, Translated
Ovt Of | the vulgar Latine by the Papists of the traite- | rous
Seminarie at Rhemes. With Arguments of | Bookes, Chap-
ters, and Annotations, pretending to | discouer the corruptions
of diuers translat- | tions, and to cleare the controuer- | sies of
these dayes. | ¶ VVhereunto is added the Translation out | of
the Original Greeke, commonly vsed in | the Church of England,
| With | A Confvtation Of All | Svc'h Argvments, Glosses, And
| Annotations, As Conteine Manifest | impietie, of heresie,
treason and slander, against the Catho- | like Church of God,
and the true teachers thereof, or | the Translations vsed in the
Church of England : | Both by auctoritie of the holy Scriptures,
| and by the testimonie of the an- | cient fathers. | ¶ By William
Fvlke, | . . . |

¶ Imprinted at London by the Deputies of Chri- | stopher Barker . . . | . . . |
Anno 1589. | Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border.

The first systematic attempt to refute the arguments and accusations contained in the "Rheims New Testament" of 1582. Many partial replies had been already published, but nothing so comprehensive as this.

7. THE FIRST "DOUAY BIBLE." 1609.

The | Holie Bible | Faithfullly Trans- | lated into English, | Ovt Of
The Avthentical | Latin. | Diligently conferred with the Hebrew,
Greeke, | and other Editions in diuers languages. | With Argv-
ments of the Bookes, and Chapters : | Annotations : Tables :
and other helpes, | for better vnderstanding of the text : for
discouerie of | Corrvptions in some late translations : and | for
clearing Controversies in Religion. | By the English College Of
Doway. | . . . | . . . |

Printed at Doway by Lawrence Kellam, | at the Signe of the holie Lambe.
| M.DC.IX. | (-M.DC.X.) 2 vols. 4to.

* * Title within lace border.

The first Roman Catholic version of the whole Bible in English. Like the "Rheims New Testament" of 1582, of which it is the complement, it rendered into English the text of the Vulgate.

It owes its existence, not so much to a desire on the part of the Church of Rome to produce a vernacular Bible as to the fact that the number of English Bibles in circulation compelled the Roman authorities to produce what they wished to be received as the standard Roman Catholic English version.

CASE 10.

THE "AUTHORISED VERSION" OF 1611 AND THE "REVISED VERSION" OF 1881-1885.

1. THE "AUTHORISED VERSION" OF THE BIBLE. 1611.

The | Holy | Bible, | Conteyning the Old Testa- | ment, and the New : | ¶ Newly Translated out of | the Originall Tongues : and with | the former Translations diligently | compared and reuised, by his | Maiesties speciall Com- | mandement. | ¶ Ap- pointed to be read in Churches. |

¶ Imprinted | at London by Robert | Barker, Printer to the | Kings most Excellent | Maiestie. | Anno Dom. 1611. | Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border containing the words "Cum Priuilegio" at the base.

The first edition of "King James' Bible," commonly called the "Authorised Version," although no evidence exists that it ever received any definite ecclesiastical or legislative sanction.

The idea of this new translation was due to John Rainolds, President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, the Puritan leader at the Hampton Court Conference, 1604. The king took up the proposal warmly, and its achievement was due to his royal interest and influence. The translators numbered about fifty, and were divided into six companies, each company being responsible for a certain section of the Scriptures. The results of their several labours were subjected to mutual criticism, and then underwent nine months' final revision by a representative committee of six members.

The directions were to take the "Bishops' Bible" as a basis and to consult the other versions. Like all the principal English versions from 1537 to 1885, this version was built upon the foundations laid by Tindale and Coverdale. It won its way by sheer merit, until gradually it displaced even the Genevan Bible in popular affection, and established itself as the sole recognised version of the Bible in English. From about the middle of the seventeenth century down to the appearance of the "Revised Version" in 1881-85 it reigned without a rival.

There seem to have been two impressions of this first edition, probably due to the impossibility of one printing office being able to supply in the time allotted the number of copies required, about 20,000. One impression reads in Ruth iii. 15 : "She went into the citie"; the other reads "He went into the citie," with the result that two series of editions of this

version grew up, one following the "She" edition, the other the "He" edition.

It is impossible to say which, if either, was the earlier, although precedence is generally given to the "He" edition, of which this is a copy. The "She" edition is also in the library.

2. THE SECOND FOLIO "AUTHORISED VERSION." 1613.

The | Holy | Bible, | Conteyning the Old Testa- | ment, and the New : | ¶ Newly translated out of | the Originall Tongues : and with | the former Translations diligently | compared and reuised by his | Maiesties speciall Com- | mandement. | ¶ Ap- pointed to be read in Churches. |

¶ Imprinted | at London by Robert | Barker, Printer to the | Kings most excellent | Maiestie. | Anno Dom. 1613. | Fol.

* * Title within woodcut border.

The second folio edition of the "Authorised Version." The New Testament title is dated 1611. It is supposed that the greater part of the volume was printed in 1611, but that the publication was for some unknown reason delayed till 1613.

3. THE QUARTO "AUTHORISED VERSION." 1612.

The | Holy | Bible, | Conteyning the Old Testament | And The New : | Newly Translated out of the Originall | tongues : & with the former Translations | diligently compared and reuised by his | Maiesties speciall Comandement. | Appointed to be read in Churches. |

Imprinted at London by Robert | Barker Printer to the Kings | most Excellent Maiestie. | Anno Dom. 1612. | 4to.

* * The title-page is engraved.

The first quarto edition of the "Authorised Version."

4. THE OCTAVO "AUTHORISED VERSION." 1612.

The | Holy Bible | Conteining The | Olde Testament, | And The New. | ¶ Newly Translated out of the Originall | Tongues : and with the former Translations dili- | gently compared and reuised, by his Maie- | sties speciall Commandement. |

Imprinted at Lon- | don by Robert Barker | Printer to the Kings most Ex- | cellent Maiestie. | Anno 1612. | 8vo.

* * Title within woodcut border.

One of the earliest octavo editions of the "Authorised Version." The error found in the version of 1611 in Exodus xiv. 10, where three lines of text are repeated, occurs in one of these, but not in the edition exhibited.

5. KING JAMES'S COPY OF THE "AUTHORISED VERSION." 1616.

The | Holy | Bible, | Containing | the Old Testament, | and the New :
 | ¶ Newly translated out of the Original Tongues | And with
 the former Translations diligently | compared and reuised, By
 His Maiesties spe- | ciall commandement.

*¶ Imprinted at London by Robert | Barker, Printer to the Kings | most
 excellent Maiesty. 1616. | Fol.*

* * Title within a woodcut border, resembling that used in some editions of the "Bishops' Bible." The initials C.B. (i.e. Christopher Barker) remain at the foot of the border unmodified.

The first folio edition of the "Authorised Version" printed in Roman letter.
 This Bible bears the arms of King James I. on the binding.

6. RAINOLDS (JOHN). "SUMME OF THE CONFERENCE . . ." 1584.

The Svmme Of | The Conference | Betwene Iohn Rainoldes | And
 Iohn Hart : | Tovching The Head And The | Faith Of The
 Church. | Wherein by the way are handled sundrie points, of
 the sufficiencie and | right expounding of the Scriptures, the
 ministerie of the Church, the fun- | ction of Priesthood, the
 sacrifice of the Masse, with other controuersies of | religion :
 but chiefly and purposely the point of Church-gouerment, |
 opened in the branches of Christes supreme soueraintie, of |
 Peters pretended, the Popes vsurped, | the Princes lawfull
 Su- | premacie. | Penned by Iohn Rainoldes, according to the
 notes set downe in | writing by them both : perused by Iohn
 Hart, and (after | things supplied, & altered, as he thought
 good) al- | lowed for the faithfull report of that | which past in
 conference be- | twene them. | Whereto is annexed a Treatise
 intitled, Six Conclvsions | Tovching The Holie Scriptvre And
 The | Chvrch, writen by Iohn Rainoldes. | With a defense of
 such thinges as Thomas Stapleton and Gregorie | Martin
 haue carped at therein. | . . . | . . . | . . . |

*Londini, impensis Geor. Bishop. ([Colophon :] . . . | Printed by Iohn
 Wolfe, for | George Bishop. | . . . |) 1584. 4to.*

* * Rainolds, who defended the Protestant position in this disputation with Hart, was chosen in 1603 by the Puritans as one of their four representatives at the Hampton Court Conference, which opened on Jan. 14, 1603-04. To him the project of a new translation of the Bible, suggested by the Puritans, is generally believed to be due. After the Conference had agreed to the proposal, Rainolds himself took a leading place amongst the scholars responsible for the preparation of the "Authorised Version."

7. THE FIRST CORRECTED CAMBRIDGE EDITION OF THE
 "AUTHORISED VERSION." 1638.

The Holy | Bible | Containing The | Old Testament | And The New :
 | Newly translated out of the | originall Tongues, and with
 | former translations diligently | compared and revised, by his

| Majesties special command. | [Device.] | Appointed to be
read in | Churches. |

Printed by Tho: Buck, and Roger Daniel, Printers to the University of Cambridge. | (1638.) Fol.

* * The title-page is engraved.

The first "authentique corrected edition" of the "Authorised Version" printed at Cambridge.

It is not generally known that the work of revision began so early. This edition contains evidence of careful and extensive revision of the text, italics, and marginal readings. It remained the standard text until the publication of the Cambridge edition of 1762 edited by Dr. Paris.

8. THE "REVISED VERSION" OF THE NEW TESTAMENT. 1881.

The | New Testament | Of | Our Lord And Saviour | Jesus Christ |
Translated Out Of The Greek : | Being The Version Set Forth
A.D. 1611 | Compared With The Most Ancient Authorities And
Revised | A.D. 1881. | . . . | . . . |

Oxford | At The University Press | 1881 | 8vo.

* * The first edition of the "Revised Version" of the New Testament.

9. THE "REVISED VERSION" OF THE BIBLE. 1885.

The | Holy Bible | Containing The | Old And New Testaments |
Translated Out Of The Original Tongues : | Being The Version
Set Forth A.D. 1611 | Compared With The Most Ancient
Authorities And Revised. | . . . | . . . | [The Old Testament
portion.]

Oxford | At The University Press | 1885 | 8vo.

* * The first edition of the "Revised Version" of the Old Testament. The Revised Apocrypha did not appear until 1895.

A SELECTION OF WORKS FOR THE STUDY OF THE
ORIGINAL TEXTS AND PRINCIPAL VERSIONS
OF THE BIBLE, WHICH MAY BE CONSULTED
IN THE JOHN RYLANDS LIBRARY.

ORIGINAL TEXTS AND EARLY VERSIONS.

GREEK. Facsimile of the codex Alexandrinus. Old Testament. (New Testament and Clementine epistles.) [Edited by Sir E. M. Thompson.] [London], 1879-83. 4 vols. Fol.

GREEK. The codex Alexandrinus, Royal ms. 1 D v-viii, in reduced photographic facsimile. New Testament and Clementine epistles. [With an introduction by F. G. Kenyon.] London, 1909. 4to.

GREEK. Codex Sinaiticus Petropolitanus et Friderico-Augustanus Lipsiensis. The Old Testament, preserved in the Public Library of Petrograd, in the Library of the Society of Ancient Literature in Petrograd, and in the Library of the University of Leipzig. (The New Testament, The Epistle of Barnabas, and the Shepherd of Hermas, preserved in the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg.) Now reproduced in facsimile from photographs by H. and K. Lake. With a description and introduction to the history of the codex by K. Lake. Oxford, 1911-22. 2 vols. 4to.

GREEK. 'Η Παλαιὰ Διαθήκη. Vetus Testamentum juxta LXX interpretum versionem e codice omnium antiquissimo Graeco Vaticano 1209 ('Η Νέα Διαθήκη. Novum Testamentum e codice Vaticano 1209, nativi textus Graeci primo omnium) phototypice repraesentatum . . . curante J. Cozza-Luzi. . . . Romae, 1889-90. 5 vols. 4to.

GREEK. Bibliorum ss. Graecorum codex Vaticanus 1209 (cod. B) denuo phototypice expressus iussu et cura praesidum Bybliothecae Vaticanae. . . . [Codices e Vaticanis selecti phototypice expressi, 4.] Mediolani, 1904-07. 4 vols. 4to.

GREEK. Codex Bezae Cantabrigiensis. Qvattvor Evangelia et Actvs Apostolorvm complectens Graece et Latine, sumptibus Academiae phototypice repraesentatvs. Cantabrigiae, 1899. 2 vols. 4to.

GREEK. Die Septuaginta-Papyri und andere altchristliche Texte der Heidelberger Papyrus-Sammlung. Herausgegeben. . . . von . . . Adolf Deissmann . . . Mit 60 Tafeln in Lichtdruck. [Veröffentlichungen aus der Heidelberger Papyrus-Sammlung, 1.] Heidelberg, 1905. 4to. pp. ix. 107.

GREEK. The Old Testament in Greek, according to the text of codex Vaticanus, supplemented from other uncial manuscripts, with a critical apparatus containing the variants of the chief ancient authorities for the text of the

- Septuagint. Edited by A. E. Brooke . . . and N. McLean. . . . Cambridge, 1906-17. Vol. I : The Octateuch. 4to. *In progress.*
- GREEK.** The Old Testament manuscripts in the Freer collection. . . . By Henry A. Sanders. . . . [With facsimiles.] [University of Michigan Studies : Humanistic Series 8.] New York, 1910-17. 2 vols. 8vo.
- GREEK.** Novum Testamentum Graece. Ad antiquissimos testes denuo recensuit apparatus criticum omni studio perfectum apposuit commentationem isagogicam praetexuit C. Tischendorf. Editio octava critica maior. (Prolegomena scripsit C. R. Gregory additis curis . . . E. Abbot.) Lipsiae [1872-]94. 3 vols. in 4. 8vo.
- GREEK.** The New Testament in the original Greek. The text revised by B. F. Westcott . . . and F. J. A. Hort. . . . Text. (Introduction, appendix.) Cambridge and London, 1881. 2 vols. 8vo.
- GREEK.** Novum Testamentum Graece cum apparatu critico, ex editionibus et libris manu scriptis collecto, curavit E. Nestle. Editio tertia recognita. Stuttgart, 1901. 8vo, pp. xi, 657.
- GREEK.** Ἡ Καινὴ Διαθήκη. Text with critical apparatus. Published by the British and Foreign Bible Society in connection with its centenary. [Edited by E. Nestle.] [With maps.] London, 1904. 8vo, pp. viii, 668.
- GREEK.** The resultant Greek Testament, exhibiting the text in which the majority of modern editors are agreed, and containing the readings of Stephens, 1550, Lachmann, Tregelles, Tischendorf, Lightfoot, Ellicott, Alford, Weiss, the Bâle edition, 1880, Westcott and Hort, and the Revision Committee. By . . . R. F. Weymouth. . . . With an introduction by . . . J. J. S. Perowne . . . Bishop of Worcester. Third edition. London, 1905. 8vo, pp. xxv, 643.
- GREEK.** The New Testament manuscripts in the Freer collection. By Henry A Sanders. . . . [With facsimiles.] [University of Michigan Studies : Humanistic Series, 9.] New York, 1918. 8vo, pp. x, 323.
- GREEK.** The minor Prophets in the Freer collection and the Berlin fragment of Genesis. By Henry A. Sanders . . . and Carl Schmidt. . . . [With facsimiles.] [University of Michigan Studies : Humanistic Series, 21.] New York, 1927. 8vo, pp. xiii, 436.
- GREEK.** Facsimile of the Washington manuscript of the minor Prophets in the Freer collection and the Berlin fragment of Genesis. With an introduction by Henry A. Sanders. [University of Michigan.] Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1927. Fol.
- GREEK.** Concerning the text of the Apocalypse : collations of all existing available Greek documents with the standard text of Stephen's third edition. Together with the testimony of versions, commentaries and Fathers. A complete conspectus of all authorities. By H. C. Hoskier. . . . London, 1929. 2 vols. 4to.
- GREEK.** Six collations of New Testament manuscripts. Edited by K. Lake and S. New. Issued as an extra number of the Harvard theological review. [With facsimiles.] [Harvard Theological Studies, 17.] Cambridge, [Mass.], 1932. 8vo, pp. viii, 243.
- GREEK.** The Chester Beatty Biblical papyri : descriptions and texts of twelve manuscripts on papyrus of the Greek Bible. . . . With . . . plates. London, 1933-34. 5 vols, 4to. *In progress.*

GREEK. The Mount Sinai manuscript of the Bible. With . . . illustrations. Third edition. . . . For the trustees of the British Museum. [London, Oxford printed], 1934. 4to, pp. 22.

GREEK. Concordant version. The Sacred Scriptures : designed to put the English reader in possession of all the vital facts of divine revelation without a former knowledge of Greek by means of a restored Greek text with various readings conforming, as far as possible, to the inspired autographs, a uniform sublinear based upon an exclusive English equivalent for each Greek element, and a consistent, emphasized English version with notes which are linked together and correlated for the English reader by means of an English concordance and lexicon and a complementary list of the Greek elements. . . . Completely revised, 1930. *The Concordant Publishing Concern . . . Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.* [1931.] 8vo.

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LATIN. Nouum Testamentum Domini nostri Iesu Christi Latine secundum editionem sancti Hieronymi ad codicum manuscriptorum fidem recensuit I. Wordsworth . . . episcopus Salisburiensis. In operis societatem adsumto H. I. White. . . . Quattuor euangelia. (Actus apostolorum, etc.) Oxonii, 1889-1934. 2 vols. 4to. *In progress.*

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COPTIC AND ENGLISH. The Coptic version of the New Testament, with introduction, critical apparatus, and literal English translation. [By G. H., i.e. G. Horner.] Oxford, 1898-1924. 11 vols. 8vo. *In progress.*
The Northern Dialect (Memphitic Bohairic). 1898-1905. 4 vols.
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COPTIC. The Gospel of St. John according to the earliest Coptic manuscript. Edited with a translation (and facsimile reproduction of the MS.) by Sir H. Thompson. London, 1924. 4to, pp. xxxix, 70.

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SYRIAC. Codex Syro-Hexaplaris Ambrosianus [containing Job—Malachi, translated from the Septuagint by Paul, Monophysite Bishop of Tela Mauzlath], photolithographice editus, curante et adnotante . . . A. M. Ceriani. . . . [Monumenta Sacra et Profana, 7.] Mediolani, 1874. Fol., pp. 140 ff., 193.

SYRIAC. [Photographic facsimiles of the Syriac palimpsest of the four Gospels discovered by A. S. Lewis in the convent of St. Catherine on Mt. Sinai in 1892.] [N.p., 1892-1902.] 5 vols. 4to.

SYRIAC. Syrus Sinaiticus. Herausgegeben von Arthur Hjelt. [A facsimile of the four Gospels in Syriac from a palimpsest discovered by Mrs. A. S. Lewis on Mount Sinai.] *Helsingfors*, 1930. 4to.

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SYRIAC AND LATIN. Tetraeuangelium sanctum simplicem Syrorum versionem ad fidem codicum, Massorae, editionum denuo racognitum. Lectionum supellectilem quam conquisiverat P. E. Pusey . . . auxit . . . edidit G. H. Gwilliam . . . Accedunt capitulorum notatio, concordiarum tabulae, translatio Latina, annotationes, *Oxonii*, 1901. 4to, pp. xvi, 608.

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BURGON (J. W.), Dean of Chichester. The causes of the corruption of the traditional text of the holy gospels. Being the sequel to the traditional text of the holy gospels. . . . Arranged, completed, and edited by E. Miller. . . . *London*, 1896. 8vo, pp. xiv, 290.

BURKITT (F. C.). The Old Latin and the Itala. With an appendix containing the text of the S. Gallen palimpsest of Jeremiah. [Texts and Studies, 4, iii.] *Cambridge*, 1896. 8vo, pp. viii, 96.

CHAPMAN (J.). Notes on the early history of the Vulgate gospels. *Oxford*, 1908. 8vo, pp. xi, 299.

CHASE (F. H.), Bishop of Ely. The Syro-Latin text of the gospels. *London*, 1895. 8vo, pp. x, 148.

CLARK (A. C.). The primitive text of the Gospels and Acts. . . . *Oxford*, 1914. 8vo, pp. vii, 112.

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- Introduction by E. Naville. . . . Second edition, revised. [With plates.] *New York and London*, 1917. 8vo, pp. xxxiv, 698.
- COPINGER (W. A.). The Bible and its transmission : being an historical and bibliographical view of the Hebrew and Greek Texts and the Greek and Latin versions of the Bible prior to the Reformation. *London*, 1897. Fol., pp. viii, 340.
- DAVIDSON (S.). A treatise on Biblical criticism exhibiting a systematic view of that science. . . . The Old Testament. (The New Testament.) *Edinburgh*, 1852. 2 vols. 8vo.
- DODD (C. H.). The Bible and the Greeks. . . . *London*, [1935]. 8vo, pp. xv, 264.
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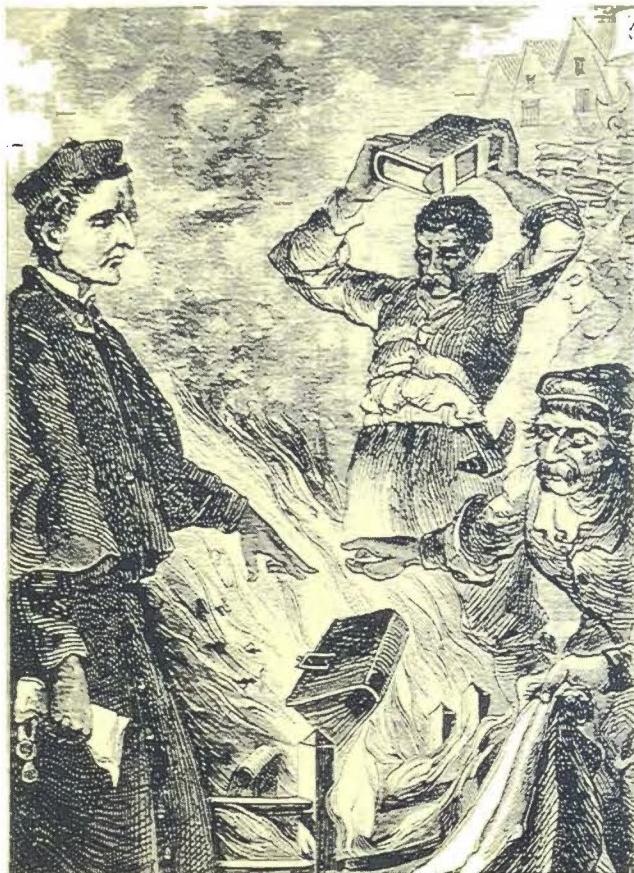
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PUBLIC BURNING OF ENGLISH BIBLES IN LONDON.

THE BURNING OF THE BIBLES.—The first English translation of the New Testament, 12 mo., from the original Greek was printed in Antwerp, (1,500 copies) in 1526. Bishop Tunstall and Wolsey, went abroad to destroy the nest, as they thought, of this viper's brood. At Antwerp, an English merchant offered them all they wished to buy, even to the last copy. The Bishop caught at the bait. "Gentle Mr. Packington," he replied, "do your diligence, and get them; and with all my heart I will pay for them, whatever they cost you; for the books are naught, and I intend surely to burn them at St. Paul's Cross." Packington's speech to Tyndale is equally quaint. "William, I know thou art a poor man, and hast a heap of books by thee; for which thou hast endangered thy friends and beggared thyself; and I have gotten thee a merchant, which with ready money shall despatch thee of all thou hast."—"Who is he?"—"The Bishop of London."—"O, that is because he will burn them."—"Yes."—"I am the gladder," said Tyndale, "for these two benefits; I shall get money to bring myself out of debt, and the whole world will cry out against the burning of God's Word; and the overplus of money shall make me more studious to correct the said New Testament, and newly to imprint the same; and I trust the second will much better like you than the first." So the books were burned in great quantities at St. Paul's Cross the same year. But a single copy of this edition is believed to be extant, and that in the Baptist Library in Bristol, England. In 1529-30 other copies were printed which found their way into England to such an extent that Dr. Stokesly, then Bishop of London, caused all the New Testaments and many others of Tyndale's works which he bought up should be brought to St. Paul's Churchyard and there burned, which was done in May, 1531. In 1534 Tyndale had prepared and printed in Antwerp a second enlarged and more perfect edition of the New Testament, 8vo. A copy of this edition is now in the British Museum. In 1538 Coverdale and the English printer Richard Grafton, had 2,500 copies of the Bible, printed in France in the English language; the whole edition was seized and condemned to the flames, a few copies only being saved.

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